

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2244.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1870.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

THE ALLIED UNIVERSITIES CLUB,

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This Club—for Noblemen and Gentlemen who are, or have been, Members of a University, or are Members of a recognised Learned Society—is now thoroughly established.

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The subsequent Entrance-Fee will be Fifteen Guineas.
The Annual Subscription is Five Guineas.
Applications for Election at the present Entrance-fee of Ten Guineas should be made at an early date.
NOTICE.—The next Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd. Members then elected will be exempt from next year's subscription.

Committee.

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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that one of the EXAMINERSHIPS IN CHEMISTRY, in this University, is NOW VACANT. Candidates for this Office must send their Applications to the Registrar, on or before the 15th of November.

By order of the Senate.

WILLIAM B. CARPENTER, M.D., Registrar.
University of London, W., October 27, 1870.

EVENING LECTURES.—ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES.—Professor FRANKLAND, LL.D. F.R.S., will commence a Course of Eight Lectures on the FIRST PRINCIPLES OF CHEMISTRY, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 2nd of November, at 8 o'clock, to be continued on each succeeding Wednesday Evening at the same hour. Tickets for the whole course, price 5s.
TENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—4, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, Trafalgar-square.—The FIRST MEETING of the Session will be held on TUESDAY, November 1st, at 8 P.M.

Papers to be read:

1. Report on Anthropological Papers read at the British Association.—Mr. Wake.
2. The People of Markon.—Dr. Charnock.
3. Condition of Blood Corpuscles in certain Races.—Dr. R. H. Bakewell.
4. Notes on Indian Remains in Venezuela.—Mr. A. Ernst.

J. FRED. COLLINGWOOD, Secretary.

LONDON INSTITUTION, Finsbury-circus.

1870-1871.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES. MONDAYS, at Four.

1. Eight Lectures, 'On Chemical Action,' by Prof. ODLING, M.B. F.R.S., October 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5, 12, 19, 1870.
2. Six Lectures, 'On the First Principles of Biology,' by Prof. HUXLEY, LL.D. F.R.S., January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 27, 1871.
3. Eight Lectures, 'On Astronomy,' by R. A. PROCTOR, Esq., B.A. F.R.A.S., March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1871.

(Tickets are issued for these Educational Lectures, the Fee for each Course being 5s.)

CONVERSATION LECTURES. WEDNESDAYS, at Half-past Seven.

1. (By special request.) 'On Dust and Disease,' by Prof. TYNDALL, LL.D. F.R.S., at the First Conversation, December 21, 1870.
2. 'On Alizarine and other Colouring Matters,' by W. H. PERKIN, Esq., F.R.S. Sec. G.S., at the Second Conversation, February 15, 1871.
3. 'Stained Glass aesthetically considered with reference to Modern Art,' by HENRY HOLIDAY, Esq., at the Third Conversation, March 15, 1871.
4. (The subject of the Lecture to be delivered at the Fourth Conversation, April 12, 1871, will be duly announced.)

EVENING COURSES. THURSDAYS, at Half-past Seven.

1. Two Lectures (with Instrumental Music), 'On the Acoustics of the Orchestra,' by Dr. W. H. STONE, M.A. F.R.C.P., November 10, 17, 1870.
2. Two Lectures, 'On Precious Metals and Precious Stones,' by Prof. MORRIS, F.G.S., November 21; December 1, 1870.
3. Two Lectures, 'On Count Rumford and his Philosophical Work,' by W. MATTHEW WILLIAMS, Esq., F.G.S., December 8, 15, 1870.
4. Two Lectures, 'On Music, Characteristic and Descriptive,' by JOHN ELLA, Esq., Director of the Musical Union, January 12, 19, 1871.
5. Four Lectures, 'On the Action, Nature, and Detection of Poisons,' by F. S. BARRETT, Esq., M.A. F.C.S., January 26; February 2, 9, 23, 1871.
6. Two Lectures (being the Travers Course), 'On the Colonial Question,' by Prof. J. E. THOROLD ROGERS, March 2, 9, 1871.
7. Six Lectures, 'On Economic Botany, or Vegetable Substances used for Food, and in the Arts and Manufactures,' by Prof. BENTLEY, F.L.S., March 23, 30; April 6, 20, 27; May 4, 1871.

By Order, THOMAS PIPER, Honorary Secretary.

LADIES' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

LONDON.

The Courses of LECTURES to LADIES, by Professors of University College, on English Literature, French (Language and Literature), Experimental Physics, Chemistry, and Logic will begin on and after MONDAY, October 31. The course of English Language will be continued at University College, on Tuesday Evenings.

Prospectuses, Class Tickets, and Free Tickets for the first Lecture of each Course to be had of the Hon. Sec.

J. E. MYLNE, Esq., 27, Oxford-square, Hyde Park, W.

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Conductor, Sir MICHAEL COSTA.

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GALLERY of the INSTITUTE of PAINTERS

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A VACANCY having occurred in the Office of HEAD MASTER to the Merchant Taylors' School, London, by the resignation of the Rev. Dr. Hessey, all Applications and Testimonials from Candidates for that Appointment (who must have graduated in honours at either the University of Oxford or Cambridge, be in Holy Orders of the Church of England, without the Cure of Souls, and shall not exceed 40 years of age) are to be addressed, on or before Saturday, the 15th November next, to the Master and Wardens of the Merchant Taylors' Company, Threadneedle-street, London. The duties will commence after the Christmas holidays; and any further information required may be obtained on personal application to Mr. SAMUEL FISHER, the Clerk to the Company, Merchant Taylors' Hall.

SUNDAY LECTURE SOCIETY.—The SOCIETY'S

LECTURES will be resumed at ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place, on SUNDAY, the 6th of November, 1870. Each Afternoon at Half-past Three o'clock precisely. Twenty-two Lectures (Three Series) will be given.

First Series of Eight Lectures, as follows:—

Nov. 6 and 13.—W. R. CARPENTER, Esq. M.D. F.R.S. F.L.S. on 'The Microscope and its Discoveries.'

„ 20 and 27.—T. SPENCER COBBOLD, M.D. F.R.S. F.L.S. (Swiney Lecturer on Geology, British Museum), on 'The Antiquity of Man.'

Dec. 4 and 11.—RICHARD A. PROCTOR, Esq. B.A. F.R.A.S. (Editor of 'Other Worlds'), on 'The Telescope and its Discoveries.'

„ 18.—W. R. S. KALSTON, Esq. M.A., on 'Russia: Its Great Reforms during the last Ten Years.'

„ 25.—MONSIEUR D. CONWAY, Esq., on 'Studies of War made at Prussian Head Quarters.'

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Professor CAIRNES will deliver the Introductory Lecture of his Course on TUESDAY, November 1st, at 6.30 P.M. Subject: 'Political Economy in its Relation to some Modern Controversies.' The Lecture will be open to the Public, and the attendance of Ladies interested in the Subject is invited.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A.

Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.—Class of CIVIL

ENGINEERING and MECHANICS (including Mechanical Principles of Naval Architecture). This Class will open on TUESDAY, the 6th of November, at 4 P.M.

W. J. MACQUORN-RANKINE, C.E., LL.D., Professor.

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART

FOR WOMEN.

Courses of Lectures On the ELEMENTS of PHYSICAL SCIENCE, by Professors HUXLEY, GUTHRIE, and OLIVER, in the Lecture Theatre, South Kensington Museum. The ELEMENTARY COURSE on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, at 11 A.M., commencing 9th of November with Professor Huxley's Introductory Lecture. The ADVANCED COURSE on TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, at 11 A.M., commencing 15th of November. Tickets for each Course, 2s. 2d. Governesses and Pupils of any age, 1s. 1d. each. Single admissions for each Lecture, 2s. 6d. Schools and Families can obtain Six Tickets at the price of Five.

A Syllabus will be issued on the day of each Lecture.

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LITERATURE

Fair France: Impressions of a Traveller. By the Author of 'John Halifax, Gentleman.' (Hurst & Blackett.)

'FAIR FRANCE' is a curious title to give to a volume at the present time. Its inappropriateness is equal to the inaccuracy of much of the contents of the book. The author goes abroad for the first time, not very willingly, and after a couple of hours' experience the traveller jumps to conclusions, and is quite sure as to what men, manners, life, religion, and everything else in France is, has been, or is likely to be. The spirit in which much of the volume is written is that of the traveller who was offended by a red-haired hostess, and who put down in his journal that all the women of the country were "rousses comme des carottes."

There is no greater ignorance of England than that displayed by Frenchmen, especially if they have been a week or two in England. The author of 'Fair France' is quite as bold in asserting as they are; assertion, no doubt, sincerely made, and often as amusing in expression as that of Mrs. Ramsbottom's astonishment, when she heard those clever creatures, the boys and girls of Calais, speaking French! Although the author of this book had never quitted England till the first tour here described was entered on, the traveller seems to have thought that one qualification was not wanting to the task. How can we doubt arguments on French subjects when we are so often told by the arguer of "the drop or two of French blood in my veins"?

"Oh the delicious burst of agreeable sensations!" is the joyous phrase with which Lady Morgan begins her rattling, scrambling, amusing, clever, absurd, wise and nonsensical 'France in 1829-30.' It is like a short, glad overture to a merry operetta. It prepares us for all the fun, the folly, and the excellent things besides, which follow. 'Fair France' opens with an acknowledgment of indifference to foreign travel which is depressing. No wonder "the prejudice is strong." The author seems to hate French *curés* as British tars of the last century were supposed to hate French sailors. The bulk of the book is, indeed, devoted to religious subjects, but hating French *curés* is not to be considered among them. It is hard to exactly make out what the traveller's final verdict is as to Roman Catholicism, except that it is not so ugly a thing as Exeter Hall paints it. On the other hand, there is no want of sarcasm at many of its ceremonies. Scorn alternates with reverence; but, altogether, the traveller reminds us of Hood's Maid-servant on the Continent, who was so perplexed between conflicting impressions that she put off believing anything till she got back to England.

The drop or two of French blood to which we have alluded asserts itself unmistakably in the land of our ancestors, and then English bad taste, bad style, bad manners, and general vulgarity get handsomely whipped all round. We take the scourging with a *mea maxima culpa*, uttered from the bottom of our hearts, and humbly looking for instructions as to behaviour, we read the following, and we open the eye of astonishment thereat:—

"In several chapels I had remarked a queer sort

of double compartment, with a footstool in each division, and a pigeon-hole grating between. To one of these a very decent-looking, comely young woman walked up and knelt down. I followed, being curious to see what it was, till a severe 'Madame, c'est défendu,' compelled my retiring. Soon, threading the crowd, came a priest, in plain black and white vestments, no colours; a little, stout, common-looking man, round faced, with no particular expression: I have seen his like in many a pulpit in our own land, and listened to many a dull, harmless sermon from the same. He passed into the inner box to where the young woman knelt, and then I knew I had been boldly marching into the very confessional. The confession began. Of course it was inaudible to me—but I could not keep my eyes from that kneeling figure; the face hidden, the shoulders actually shaking with excess of agitation. And when I thought of the stolid and stupid-looking man I had seen pass into the opposite pigeon-hole, I felt rising up a very un-Catholic spirit of disgust and indignation. What could this poor foolish priest, who was neither husband nor father, and had probably quite forgotten the relations of son or brother—what could he know of human nature, and, above all, of woman's nature, so as to comfort, absolve or advise in any case of sin, or suffering, or wrong? The two most obnoxious points, to my mind, in the Roman Catholic Church, viz. the celibacy of the clergy and the system of the confessional, came upon me with such force that I should like to have gone up to the young woman and taken hold of her by those poor quivering shoulders, and said to her, 'Don't be such a fool! Don't lean your faith on any priest alive; carry your burden direct to Him who said to the weary-laden, "Come." Put no shield between you and God. A woman should confess her sins to no mortal man—except, perhaps, if he is worthy of it, her own husband. You poor visionary! rise up from your knees and go home.'

How much greater was the delicacy of the young verger at St. Étienne's—"even politely looking another way, when he found us eating biscuits in the Sacristy." The author,—whose religion is the one that is most intensely felt in the Cathedral of Immensities, who distrusts any conglomeration of men calling themselves Mother Church, who mentally contradicts preachers placed otherwise five feet above contradiction, and who hopes the time is coming when Christians will be bold enough to declare their disbelief in hell,—claims respect for religious majorities, and also puts forth this astounding remark: "Probably, Ireland is the only country in the world where, by a curious and, I think, most unjust anomaly, the religious establishment of the minority enjoys the title and privileges of a 'Church.'" If this were written three or four years ago it is entirely out of place in a book published in 1870—we beg pardon; the date on the title-page is 1871. The Irish Church is *perhaps* to be established again next year.

The author's opinion that the gravity of Protestant worshippers in the Rue de Provence is probably founded on their remembrance that the signal for the Massacre of St. Bartholomew was rung out from the neighbouring Church of St.-Germain-l'Auxerrois, is as correct as the belief that English farmers eat beef and fat bacon, and get drunk on brandy or brandied wines. We can scarcely credit our own sense of seeing when we read that Roman Catholics are "usually better acquainted with their Prayer Books than their Bibles." This is as far from the truth as the assertion that M. Guizot is the strongest opponent of Catholicism in France. M. Guizot is a liberal Protestant, who has written an earnest book in support of Catholicism, the argument of which is, that

if ever the temporal power of the Pope be abolished, spiritual religion all over the world would suffer. This ignorance of contemporary history is only to be matched by the ignorance of former times. We are told, as "a curious fact," that mediæval men who reared such magnificent temples to God as the ancient cathedrals, "must have lived domestically like pigs in a sty, utterly ignorant of sanitary laws or of the common luxuries and refinements of our days." This is a vulgar error, which may be corrected by reading some of the works published by the Early English Text Society. These show that there was as much tubbing and sponging then as now; as much regard for health, and more regard for the Thames, which was clear as crystal, and defiling which brought a man to sup sorrow.

In various instances the author is playfully perverse. The travellers, for there is more than one, go by mischance to nasty hotels, but these are not named, and the experience will not profit other wayfarers. They hang on the accents of eloquent preachers, but we have no chance of enjoying the eloquence, for the author neither knows nor cares to know their names. On the other hand, the volume has double opinions,—*c'est à choisir*. The French have no such thing as is meant by "home"—the French have such luxury, and know how to enjoy it. They are sober—they are tipplers. Absinthe is not laid to their charge, but cider-brandy is put down as a popular poison, so hateful, that when some plain cider was offered them by a hearty-natured Norman, the hospitality was rejected with something akin to ill-manners. "We turned away in such indignation that his companion said to him, 'Are they princes?' The irony was not lost upon us"—which is, at all events, satisfactory. The travellers, however, can be complimentary, as may be seen in the following passage, which, however, has as much vinegar as honey in it, and shows that the travellers were not fortunate enough to encounter many of the finer quality of French priests:—

"I have little liking for French priests in general. They are usually coarse and common-looking; good men, I believe many of them are, but there are very few whom you could at all mistake for either clever men or gentlemen. This priest, however, was a striking exception. Thin, spare, sallow, with a good forehead, and a nervous yet firm and expressive mouth, he was (if that gentleman will pardon the comparison) as like the portraits of the Rev. Charles Kingsley as if the Catholic priest and the Protestant canon had been twin-brothers. Evidently a gentleman born and bred; something of the ascetic, a good deal of the scholar, and just a touch of what we call 'the man of the world,'—the old man (he was much older, I should observe, than his English 'double') formed a most curious study. He studied us in return. From under his thick brows, and over the top of his breviary, he watched all his fellow-passengers with the keenness of a man accustomed to observe life."

We should much like to know to what conclusions the study of English character brought that gentlemanlike French priest. If we turn from priest to politics and political feeling, we find some very curious matter. For instance, we may well smile at the expressed wonder "How long the next revolution will be staved off—who knows?" as if the Revolution which began in 1789 had ever yet really ceased. Let us record one clear-sighted French innkeeper, who said to the author, "It is no matter—Liberty! if we had it, we should not know

how to use it!" Equally clear-sighted was a Parisian's remark: "It is not desirable for us to have a history," on which the author cannot help wondering what will be the story of the future,—what new events, what possible tragedies may still be enacted there! A third sententious Gaul observes, "A republic is not improbable; but even if established, it will not last long. Nothing with us now ever does last long. We are not men at all: we are mere children."

If this volume be a little behind its time, and if it seem as far from the France of to-day as Lady Morgan's is, which was gaily dashed off forty years ago, it will still be found pleasant reading. The writer is so sincere that we lose sight, willingly, of shortcomings. Anything that comes from the author of 'John Halifax' is sure to receive attention; but we cannot honestly say that 'Fair France' is worthy of the author of 'John Halifax.'

The Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George: a Review of Modern Impostures, and a Sketch of its True History. By His Imperial Highness the Prince Rhodocanakis. 2 Parts. (Longmans & Co.)

IN this age of remarkable events, empires perish and emperors are dethroned; Maximilian and Louis Napoleon receive commiseration; and we may add to the fallen members of the Imperial order Soulouque of Hayti, while a grandson of Iturbide of Mexico shares in the events attendant on the fall of the Papal sovereignty. Those, however, for whom the title of Emperor has especial claims to reverence and to admiration may take this comfort to their souls: Orelia is again in his kingdom of Araucania, and the antagonistic Chilians affirm in their irritation that the new Cacique is none other than a French barber. Nevertheless we need not go so far as that, for emperors and kings are springing up around us in London,—this soil of refuge being, it seems, congenial for the propagation and culture of such eminent dignitaries. Some of this is revealed to us by a luxurious looking brochure, which, in this time of sorrow, is liberally "published in aid of the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War."

We trust that the remarks we are about to make may promote this worthy object, and that some may be induced to pay half-a-crown, which they will find at all events well bestowed if it reaches the treasury of the Society; nor will the purchaser have any right to grumble, for the work, as we have intimated, is truly curious. It purports to be by His Imperial Highness the Prince Rhodocanakis, and it must be our fault or that of his imperial ancestors that we never heard of His Imperial Highness before; and it is creditable to the sagacity of our Legislature or our Ministers that His Imperial Highness the Prince has been duly acknowledged and recorded in a parliamentary return. The event that is the cause of the public becoming acquainted with His Imperial Highness is much less dangerous to the world than the dissensions of some of his brother emperors. Although His Imperial Highness is very candid, the circumstances are rather obscure, but we are inclined to believe that two emperors of Constantinople, the Emperor of Rhodes, the King of

Epirus, and the Grand Imperial Council of something, and Mr. Somebody, fell out in a Masonic newspaper about an ancient order of knighthood some fourteen centuries old, of which each and all of them claim the Grand Mastership, as do the ex-King of Naples, the ex-Duke of Parma, the King of Italy, and, as we understand, the ex-Emperor of the French.

This is a pretty quarrel as it stands, and we should have heard nothing of it, nor of most of those concerned in it, as we should never think of looking in a Masonic journal for matters of a political character; but happily H.I.H. the Prince Rhodocanakis has printed his brochure very neatly, and has favoured us with a copy for our critical opinion of the controversy. We hardly dare to argue with the master of so many legions: still emperors and princes do appeal to us when they have a literary turn; and besides Prince Rhodocanakis, is there not the Duke of Roussillon?

The order of knighthood in dispute is the "Imperial Constantinian Order of St. George," or the "Imperial, Ecclesiastical, and Military Order of Valiant and Noble Knights of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine." We freely own we do not see our way to the right of any one of the main claimants to dispose of the Order at all, or how he came to be connected with it. His Imperial Highness repudiates the Dukes of Parma, the Kings of Naples, the Empress Marie Louise, and other sovereigns, who historically dealt with the Order, but this neither makes good his own claim nor that of the King of Epirus; and we cannot see that His Imperial Highness does much in putting down pretending Grand Masters, unless he establishes a clear case for himself.

On this ground, therefore, we shall not engage our readers in the details of the controversy with the other champions. His Imperial Highness calls this "A Review of Modern Impostures," which it certainly is to some extent, but he is too modest, for it embraces some very old impostures. One of these is the fable that Constantine the Great set up this order of knighthood: and on the fall of the Byzantine empire and the Greek emigration, something occurred like what happened in the Polish and Greek emigrations of our day. If we may trust Ducange there was a family of Anzoli, who claimed to be Angeli, and to have inherited as a family title the Grand Mastership of the Order of Constantine, with large prerogatives. They freely gave away titles of their Order, and the last descendant finding himself without heirs favoured the Duke of Parma and his relative the Pope, by selling him the Grand Mastership,—an act which not unnaturally excites indignation in H.I.H. Prince Rhodocanakis. From this Duke of Parma in time other claims arose, so that for two centuries, until the dethronement of the minor Italian potentates, the Cross of St. George was very freely bestowed in Italy.

The Freemasons in various countries have shown a hankering for stars and orders, and not contented with their craft and guild titles of Worshipful Masters and Right Worshipful, they in the last century experienced a breaking out of the Order mania, in which they converted into Masonic orders the Temple, St. John, and it appears the Red Cross of St. George, culminating in a Council of Emperors of the East and West. Passing from France

into England, the disease became milder in its form, but more extensive; and respectable tradesmen have assiduously maintained among us the chivalric Orders, although on a very modest scale. All the attractions of these Orders have not protected them constantly from the vicissitudes of things human; they have had their ups and their downs. St. George, it seems, lately turned up in the pages of a Right Worshipful contemporary, and this appears to have put His Imperial Highness and several other illustrious potentates in mind that there was such an Order, that they ought to claim it, and to distribute its decorations.

For anything that appears, His Imperial Highness had never taken any trouble about the Constantinian Order till within the last two years, nor his imperial ancestors either. However, he now protests against anybody else having anything to do with it. One claimant is, it appears, Antonio Lascari Comneno, Grand Duke of Epirus. We must own we do not exactly know which Prince of Epirus this is; whether it is the King of Epirus, who asserted that he was reigning there in defiance of the Turks, and raised an army of Colonels, Counts, and Knights Grand Crosses in London and Paris, to defend his Christian empire against the Moslems and the French police; or whether it is another pretender to the throne of Prince Rhodocanakis, Lascaris Emperor of Byzantium, and perhaps of some other places, who, we learn, has come to London to seize the Order of St. George, and thus abet the Sultan and the Pope in depriving of its just rights the imperial house of Ducas Angelus Comnenus Paleologus Rhodocanakis.

Now our readers may not unnaturally ask us who the imperial author may be, but on that head we can give very little information (though much of the brochure is devoted to it), as the original authorities are not referred to in this work; but the chief evidence is to be found in *Notes and Queries* and the *Freemasons' Magazine*. We will therefore do the best we can among many besetting difficulties. One of the first that besets us is the name of Rhodocanakis. This is more commonly written by the Greek merchants and traders, Rhodokanaki, or Rhodokanakhi. How a *c* is transliterated from Greek otherwise than *k*, or transliterated back into anything else in Greek than *k*, we could not make out, before the learned author informed us that Rhodocanakis is a composition of the words *Rhodoc* and *Anaks*: nor can we make this out; but it may be Rhodian grammar. However, two things at least are proved: that the Rhodocanakis were kings or emperors of the Isle of Rhodes, and are so still; and that the Emperor Justinian the Great knew all about heraldry in A.D. 538, and conferred "*Azure* an inverted (*sic*) imperial diadem, *Proper*, containing *Roses Argent*, and surmounted by an oval circle of six stars *Or*."

How the Rhodocanakis came to lose the empire of Rhodes we are not informed, but it may well have been by the joint action of the Pope and the Sultan. Luckily, they made up for this, for the sixth hereditary Emperor of the Byzantine Empire, as we imply, came to England, and died here, and "his title, rights, and claims were inherited, as a matter of course, by his only child and heiress, Theodora Paleologus (b. 1594)." As, also of course, perhaps by the Royal Marriage Act of England,

she could only marry a royal personage, she married, in England we believe, but we are not sure, her cousin, H.R.H. Prince Demetrius Rhodocanakis, Emperor of Rhodes. From that time the Rhodocanakis went back to the commercial island of Scio, and propagated emperors, becoming Emperors not only of Rhodes, but also of Byzantium, and also Grand Masters of the Imperial, &c. Order of St. George. This part of the history, as to their being emperors, is clearer than the mode how they became so; for it is a stumbling-block to us that, in the Byzantine empire, any female should, "as a matter of course," inherit the empire, and become Empress and Grand Master, or Grand Mistress. This is a trifle, which can perhaps be explained. Meanwhile we leave it to the judgment of our readers to decide: perhaps they may toss up; it seems that, as well as two empires, the Imperial Royal Rhodocanakis dynasty usually or occasionally had two emperors at once, and perhaps have now, as H.I.H. intimates, in accordance with history, to have been the practice of Byzantium.

We are not inclined to blame H.I.H. the Emperor of Rhodes and Byzantium for not making all matters clear to our imperfect comprehension, but we do complain much of our travellers and consuls in the East for keeping us without information as to these emperors, who have for centuries been living in their castle of Rhodocanakis, in the island of Scio, defying the Sultan and all his power; as they still do—at least, so we make out. The pages of history are deficient, for we learn, "Between the jealousy of the Latin Church and the exterminating spirit of the Turkish Government, the survivors of the Imperial family have ever been subjected to peculiar disabilities." We own we never heard of this before; but we infer the Turks occasionally exterminated the Emperors in the Castle of Chio, or Scio, and particularly during the horrible massacre in the Isle of Chio, in 1822, "when the greater portion of them were slain, and the survivors scattered over the world." We gather there is a hope the Imperial family may yet succeed to its Imperial throne, at Byzantium or elsewhere; but that is dimly foreshadowed.

In the mean time, while Joannes X. Ducas Angelus Comnenus Paleologus Rhodocanakis apparently remains in Chio, exposed to be massacred by the Turks, and defending his prerogative of distributing grand crosses of his Imperial Order, of which a very pretty picture decorates the *brochure*, under protection of the Imperial crown and cipher, the eldest son and heir apparent has taken shelter in England, and, by the help of our Government, has been naturalized as a prince; and here he may perpetuate his Empire and his Orders when Byzantium may be no more.

Elementary Lessons in Logic. By Stanley Jevons, M.A. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE controversies of modern logic, however valuable and interesting they may be to the advanced student, are a very serious hindrance to the attainment of a thorough knowledge of the subject. The ardent partisan can seldom, if ever, avoid the temptation to enlarge unduly on the special tenets of his own school and to depreciate those of others, and the beginner meets with one-sided and unfair statements

from the very first, both in the lecture-room and in the pages of the text-book which is put into his hands. This is a very great misfortune, as its necessary consequence is the exclusion of logic from early education, and as a result of this, the growth of loose and incorrect habits of thought. At the same time, it is extremely difficult for the writer on logic, and particularly on elementary logic, to avoid either a narrow dogmatism which misleads the reader, or a continual tone of controversy which hopelessly perplexes him. The disputed points are so many and so various, they lie so completely at the root of the matter, entwining themselves with its first principles, that it is almost impossible to pass them over unnoticed, without ignoring very important results of modern research. And yet it is equally impossible to do justice to both sides of the question, and to present to the reader an impartial statement of the arguments which may be urged in support of one or the other of the two alternative hypotheses. Hence, most modern text-books of logic are unsatisfactory, and none of them have succeeded in displacing at our universities the barbarous Latin of the quasi-mediæval Aldrich.

In the manual whose unpretending title stands at the head of this article, Prof. Jevons has attempted with very considerable success to avoid these dangers, and to furnish our schools and colleges with a simple and trustworthy statement of all that is necessary for the beginner to know. We cannot praise too highly the wisdom which has guided him safely through the pitfalls of controversy, or the clear judgment which has brought into prominence all that is most valuable in modern logic. He has held the balance with admirable skill between the respective claims of deductive and inductive systems, and the devoted adherent of either of them will find his own view of their relative importance very fairly represented. Instead of treating formal logic as merely subsidiary to induction, like Prof. Bain and Mr. Fowler, or neglecting the claims of modern induction altogether, like Prof. McCosh, he has given a clear and impartial account of each in its turn. The chapters on the inductive methods, on observation and experiment, &c., while they modestly profess to be nothing more than "an easy introduction to some of the more important parts of Mr. Mill's logic," really contain a great deal that is original in the way of remark and illustration, and are likely to prove far more useful and intelligible to the young learner than the more elaborate treatise upon which they are based. This is the case with almost every chapter of Prof. Jevons's little book; he gives at the end of each one or more authorities, to whom he refers the reader for a further explanation of the question of which the chapter has been treating: but we suspect that the student will generally find that Prof. Jevons has given so completely the pith of all that is valuable in the author whom he quotes, that he will gain but little fresh information from his further inquiries, and will turn back with a sense of relief to the clear and succinct account which sums up their contents so accurately.

Perhaps the most original trait of this excellent little book is the prominence which it gives throughout to the consideration of Language. The intimate connexion of the faculty of speech with the possession of reason is a

fact which modern psychology accounts to be of primary importance in the analysis of human intelligence. It is therefore satisfactory to find Prof. Jevons omitting the unreal and fanciful account of Conception which Sir William Hamilton thrusts to the front of his philosophy, and dwells upon with an almost tedious repetition, and substituting for it a most interesting and suggestive account of the growth of language by means of the processes of generalization and specialization. It is the insertion of such chapters as these which gives to his book an educational value beyond and beside the mere knowledge it imparts; for without ever departing from its subject, it supplies materials for fruitful reflection and hints for accurate research in fields of study altogether outside of its own special limits. If logic is the *ars artium et scientiarum*, this ought always to be the case; and it is a defect in some modern writers that they exhibit a superfluous anxiety to confine the "logician as such" within a very narrow area.

Prof. Jevons has made it a special point to avoid the needless introduction of those technical terms with which so many sciences are overloaded. Here and there he brings in words and expressions which appear to us unnecessary: *Amphibology*, for instance, is for several reasons undesirable, and *Exceptive*, *Ampliative* and *Truistic* propositions might, perhaps, be dispensed with as a special classification; but we suppose that it is impossible to sweep the field clear of the cumbrous phraseology to which almost every author furnishes a contribution of his own. We may remark, by the way, in speaking of *Truistic* Propositions, that "What I have written, I have written," scarcely comes into the class. At all events, the persons to whom it was originally addressed regarded it as a very definite refusal of their request.

In one or two instances, in which the conclusions of modern logicians are set aside in the pages before us, the reasons given are not sufficient to justify the change. Mr. Mill's account of connotative and non-connotative nouns is far more satisfactory and thoughtful than the objections brought against it by Prof. Jevons, who wishes to make proper names connotative, on the ground that they connote their peculiar qualities and circumstances (page 42). This appears to involve a confusion between the immutable attributes which constitute the universal, and the ever-changing peculiarities of the individual. Even if it were true, it would be quite out of harmony with Mr. Mill's system. Similarly, the reduction of the inductive syllogism to the form of the disjunctive (page 215), which is advocated in opposition to Sir William Hamilton, ignores altogether the essential nature of disjunctive propositions,—at least, if we use the term in its ordinary and accepted meaning. While we are pointing out these minor defects, we must notice a statement actually incorrect. Prof. Jevons, like most modern logicians, misapprehends the doctrine of the mediæval Realists on the nature of Universals. The theory which he attributes to them belongs rather to the Formalists, or Ultra-realists (as they are sometimes called). It was vigorously opposed, and finally driven from the field, by the Realists proper. At the same time, it must be allowed that the distinction between the two schools was a rather subtle one; and it is

only the general accuracy pervading the book which leads us to notice this single exception to it.

We cannot lay aside these 'Lessons in Logic' without expressing a hope that we shall soon see them very generally adopted both in our Universities and in public schools. No study is better calculated to waken intelligence than logic; nothing is more useful to boys who are beginning to think for themselves. Up to the present time, it has been difficult for the teacher to know what text-book to put into the hands of his pupils, but we think that Prof. Jevons has solved the difficulty, and furnished a manual alike simple, interesting and scientific. We have already mentioned the clearness and accuracy of its statements, and its value as an instrument of education; we may add, that it is of an attractive style, and gives a careful explanation of all that is most likely to perplex the beginner. It is the work of one who is himself a practised teacher, and who thoroughly understands the subject on which he writes.

The Life of Henry John Temple, Viscount Palmerston. By the Right Hon. Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, G.C.B., M.P. Vols. I. and II. (Bentley.)

(Second Notice.)

WE resume our notice of this work at the beginning of the second volume and of the year 1831, memorable for the diplomatic struggle between Lord Palmerston and Talleyrand upon the questions that grew out of the creation, by English influence, of the Belgian kingdom. Then, as now, the situation of Luxembourg made that Duchy a tempting morsel to all its neighbours; and when Palmerston sounded "Old Talley," as he used to call him, upon a plan by which the territory would have become Belgian, he was met with a counter-proposal, supported and answered by arguments which are worth remembering at this time:—

"Talleyrand looked very grave, and said he thought his Government would not like to see Luxembourg united to Belgium. I asked why, inasmuch as it had been so united hitherto, and would not be more inconvenient to France when united to Belgium alone, than when united to Belgium joined with Holland. He said, the fact was that their frontier in that direction is very weak and exposed, and Luxembourg runs into an undefended part of France. He then said, Would there be no means of making an arrangement by which Luxembourg might be given to France? I confess I felt considerable surprise at a proposition so much at variance with all the language and professions which he and his Government have been holding. I said that such an arrangement appeared to me to be impossible, and that nobody could consent to it. I added that England had no selfish objects in view in the arrangements of Belgium, but that we wished Belgium to be really and substantially independent. That we were desirous of living upon good terms with France, but that any territorial acquisitions of France such as this which he contemplated would alter the relations of the two countries, and make it impossible for us to continue on good terms. I found since this conversation that he had been making similar propositions to Prussia about her Rhenish provinces, in the event of the possibility of moving the King of Saxony to Belgium and giving Saxony to Prussia. To-day he proposed to me that France should get Philippeville and Marienburg, in consideration of France using her influence to procure the election of Leopold for Belgium. I do not like all this; it looks as if France

was unchanged in her system of encroachment, and it diminishes the confidence in her sincerity and good faith which her conduct up to this time had inspired. *It may not be amiss for you to hint, upon any fitting occasion, that though we are anxious to cultivate the best understanding with France, and to be on the terms of the most intimate friendship with her, yet that it is only on the supposition that she contents herself with the finest territory in Europe, and does not mean to open a new chapter of encroachment and conquest.*"

About a fortnight later Talleyrand opened his batteries upon Palmerston once more:—

"He fought like a dragon, pretended he would not agree to the neutrality of Belgium if Luxembourg was not included, then said he would accept instead of it the cession to France of Philippeville and Marienburg. To this we of course positively objected. First, we had no power to give what belongs to Belgium and not to us, and we could not, under the pretence of settling the quarrel between Holland and Belgium, proceed to plunder one of the parties, and that too for the benefit of one of the mediators. Besides, if France began, the rest might have a right to follow the example. At last we brought him to terms by the same means by which juries become unanimous—by starving. Between nine and ten at night he agreed to what we proposed, being, I have no doubt, secretly delighted to have got the neutrality of Belgium established."

Count Flahault, who was sent over by the French as special envoy, did not succeed much better. He proposed the Duke of Nemours for King of the Belgians, and a secret alliance between England and France. The Cabinet, however, having met "to consider the election of Nemours," had determined "to require France to refuse acceptance at the risk of war." As for the alliance, Palmerston wrote to Lord Granville:—

"I said that these offensive and defensive alliances were not very popular in England; that he could not doubt our desire that France should remain as she was, neither conquering nor conquered; and that if she was unjustly attacked, England would beyond a doubt be found on her side; that our position at present ought, I conceive, to be that of impartial mediators between France on one hand, and the three other Powers on the other; that as long as both parties remain quiet we shall be friends with both; but that whichever side breaks the peace, that side will find us against them; that there does not at present seem any immediate danger threatening France, to guard against which such a treaty could be necessary; on the contrary, if danger exists, it is more likely to come from than against France. I said, however, that we could bear the idea in mind, and that at all events they might rely upon this, that while France remains quiet and does not revive the Buonaparte system of aggression and aggrandizement, it will be the wish and interest of England to cultivate the closest friendship and alliance with her."

No rebuff, however, could disconcert the French. Within a month of Flahault's return to Paris, Talleyrand proposed "that we should goad the Dutch on to break the armistice, cry out shame upon them, fly to the aid of the Belgians, cover Belgium with troops, and then settle everything as we chose." Palmerston's was a model answer, and one which, in forty years, has not ceased to be true:—

"The French Government are perpetually telling us that certain things must, or must not, be done, in order to satisfy public opinion in France; but they must remember that there is a public feeling in England as well as in France; and that although that feeling is not as excitable upon small matters as the public mind in France, yet there are points (and Belgium is one) upon which it is keenly sensitive, and upon which, if once aroused, it would not easily be appeased."

There are others of Lord Palmerston's remarks about the events of 1831 and 1832 which are applicable to 1870, and which read like prophecy:—

"They miscalculate their chances, however, I think; and they will find that a war with all the rest of the world, brought upon them by a violation of their word, will not turn to their advantage, nor redound to their honour. . . . The Chambers will soon be sick of barren glory if they succeed, or of defeats brought needlessly upon them if they fail; the Ministry will be turned out, and the King may go with them."

Let us turn now from foreign to home matters, and we shall find that history repeats itself. The Coercion Bill of 1833 and that of 1870 were more like one another than Mr. Gladstone would be willing to admit; and there was a still closer resemblance in the declarations of their authors:—

"Domestic affairs go well. You see by what spanning majorities this reformed House of Commons is passing the most violent Bill ever carried into a law; which combines in one Act the Insurrection Act, the Suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and Martial Law. It is a real *tour de force*, but then it is to be followed by remedial measures, and there is the difference between us and Metternich or the Pope; we coerce as they do, but then we redress grievances as they do not. It is also to be remarked that few absolute Governments could by their own authority establish such a system of coercion as that which the freely-chosen representatives of the people are placing at the command of the Government of this country."

The little side-cut at the Pope in this sentence is in keeping with the tone generally taken by Lord Palmerston with regard to the rulers of the Papal States. In a letter to Mr. Temple, of about the same date as that to Lord Granville, from which we have just now given a quotation, the Foreign Minister writes:—

"The affairs of Italy seem to be in a miserable state, and the governors appear to be doing all they can to make themselves hated by the governed. I speak more particularly of the Papal States and Modena: as to the latter, the Grand Duke is mad, and that accounts for, though it cannot justify, his vagaries. The cardinals are supposed to be in their sound senses, and it is lamentable to see what the sound sense of a cardinal amounts to."

The following passage, written in 1834, might almost have come from the pen of a member of the present Cabinet:—

"We are doing well here; the Government, as you will see by our late divisions, is very strong in the House of Commons upon all great questions, however we may be now and then beat upon small points. Reductions of numbers in army and navy are negated by immense majorities, and we may be beat upon little questions of a few hundred pounds. This is just as usual; and I must say that this reformed House of Commons is growing to be wonderfully like all its predecessors: impatient of fools, intolerant of blackguards, tired with debate, and disposed generally to place confidence in Government upon all matters which the members do not understand, or in which their particular constituents have not a direct interest. Property and land are strong in this House, and it is highly Conservative."

The amount of space devoted to Home affairs in the two volumes which we are examining is far from great. Sir Henry Bulwer, a diplomatist himself, probably omits from his collection many letters in which Palmerston gave his opinions upon matters of Home Government, while he inserts at length almost everything which bears upon Foreign policy. At the same time we find that Palmerston himself, while he never draws a moral for home use from events abroad, yet when he writes of

our internal politics, invariably treats his correspondents to a dissertation upon their bearing on the European situation. For instance, he says of West Indian Emancipation:—

"I really believe that the twenty millions which are to be voted are about the whole value of all the estates at the present market price; so that they will receive nearly the value of their estates, and keep those estates into the bargain. I must say it is a splendid instance of generosity and justice, unexampled in the history of the world."

And immediately proceeds to comment as follows:—

"Some persons on the Continent want to have it supposed that the English are so bent upon economy and retrenchment that no provocation or injury would rouse them to incur the expense of another war. This vote of so large a sum for the satisfaction of a principle ought to show those persons that it would not be safe to rely too much upon their calculation."

One passage in a letter to Mr. Temple, while it deals neither wholly with English nor wholly with foreign affairs, is not without interest at a moment when some of our contemporaries are tracing Lord Lorn's ancestry to a Scotch Adam, and when *Punch* is giving us a cartoon of "A (real) German defeat":—

"We have a flight of German princes come over to us; but Princess Victoria is hardly old enough as yet to make it worth their while to come. The Duke of Brunswick, the Prince of Solms, two Dukes of Würtemberg, Prince Reuss-Lebenstein-Gera, have all been seized with a sudden desire to see England. We shall see what will come of it all."

At the close of the volume we find Lord Palmerston struggling with the French over the affairs of Turkey and Egypt, as, at its beginning, we found him wrestling with them for the existence of Belgium. The view which he took of Turkey, and which he maintained in spite of French and Russian menaces, is best given in his own words:—

"People go on talking of the inevitable and progressive decay of the Turkish empire, which they say is crumbling to pieces. In the first place, no empire is likely to fall to pieces if left to itself, and if no kind neighbours forcibly tear it to pieces. In the next place, I much question that there is any process of decay going on in the Turkish empire; and I am inclined to suspect that those who say that the Turkish empire is rapidly going from bad to worse ought rather to say that the other countries of Europe are year by year becoming better acquainted with the manifest and manifold defects of the organization of Turkey. But I should be disposed to think that, for some years past, the foundations at least of improvement have been laid; and it is certain that the daily increasing intercourse between Turkey and the other countries of Europe must in a few years, if peace can be preserved, throw much light upon the defects and weaknesses of the Turkish system, and lead to various improvements therein."

The fight which he had to carry on, almost unaided, against France for many years had probably some effect in warping Lord Palmerston's judgment as to the personal character of French statesmen; but whether this were the case, or whether he shared in the dislike which Englishmen too commonly feel for even the best forms of the expression of French thought, he seems to have seen nothing but trickery and deceit in Paris. Thus, he writes of the King:—

"The truth is, however reluctantly one may avow the conviction, that Louis Philippe is a man in whom no solid trust can be reposed. However, there he is, and we call him our ally; only we ought to be enlightened by experience and not to attach to his assertions or professions any greater value than really belongs to them; more especially when, as in the case of Egypt, his words are not

only at variance with his conduct, but even inconsistent with each other."

And again:—

"What you say of the French in general is very true. There is no trusting them; and they are always acting a double part. I am afraid, however, that their double-dealing at present is not to be ascribed solely to weakness and timidity. The truth is, that Louis Philippe is the prime mover of the foreign relations of France, and one must admit in one's own mind that if he had been a very straightforward, scrupulous, and high-minded man, he would not have been sitting on the French throne."

The tone which Palmerston assumed towards France in all the Egyptian negotiations was one so strong as almost to amount to bluster. This, for instance, is a passage from his private instructions to Sir Henry Bulwer, then our Minister at Paris:—

"The French Government should, if necessary, be reminded that it has been told over and over again by us since last September, that if she would not go on with us we should go on without her; that we were ready and willing to go on with France, but not to stand still with France. Guizot said that the French Government would now feel it necessary to be in force, in great force, in the Levant. Be it so. We shall not be daunted by any superiority of naval force which she may choose or be able to send thither. We shall go to work quietly in our own way, in presence of a superior force, if such there be, just as undisturbed as if it was laid up in ordinary at Toulon. France knows full well that if that superior force should dare to meddle with ours, it is *war*; and she would be made to pay dearly for war so brought on."

At the tail of the letter he adds:—

"Guizot has looked as cross as the devil for the last few days; and, indeed, on Sunday, when he dined here, he could scarcely keep up the outward appearances of civility."

The following passage is still more fierce:—

"Bullies seldom execute the threats they deal in; and men of trick and cunning are not always men of desperate resolves. But if Thiers should again hold to you the language of menace, however indistinctly and vaguely shadowed out, pray retort upon him to the full extent of what he may say to you, and with that skill of language which I know you to be the master of, convey to him in the most friendly and unoffensive manner possible, that if France throws down the gauntlet we shall not refuse to pick it up; and that if she begins a war, she will to a certainty lose her ships, colonies, and commerce before she sees the end of it; that her army of Algiers will cease to give her anxiety, and that Mehemet Ali will just be chucked into the Nile. I wish you had hinted at these topics when Thiers spoke to you; I invariably do so when either Guizot or Bourqueney begin to swagger; and I observe that it always acts as a sedative. I remind them that countries seldom engage in unprovoked war, unless they have something to gain by so doing; but that we should very soon have nearly three times the number of ships that France could put to sea, and must, therefore, have the command of all their interests beyond sea; and that even if we had not such a decided superiority upon our own bottom, Russia would be with us, and has a fleet equal to the fleet of France. These considerations perhaps might weigh more with Louis Philippe than with Thiers, but I am inclined to think that they will weigh with somebody or other at Paris."

And the following enlarges the special directions given on earlier occasions into a general system:—

"I can assure you that you would be most usefully supporting the interests of peace by holding a firm and stout language to the French Government and to Frenchmen. Nothing is more unsound than the notion that anything is to be gained by trying to conciliate those who are trying to intimidate us; by conciliate I mean to conciliate

by concession. It is quite right to be courteous in words, but the only possible way of keeping such persons in check is to make them clearly understand that one is not going to yield an inch, and that one is quite strong enough to repel force by force."

The two volumes at present issued are too small a portion of the Life for us to pronounce a final judgment either upon Sir Henry Bulwer's execution of his task or upon Lord Palmerston's character as revealed by his letters and his diary. Of the former there is little at present to be said, inasmuch as Sir Henry Bulwer appears rather in the twofold capacity of editor and actor than as an author. We do not, however, know how we could bestow higher praise than this upon a biographer of such a man as Palmerston. As for his hero, we shall judge the politician better, perhaps, when we come to the later years of his life; but at the close of our examination of the earlier letters, the man remains fixed in our remembrance as full of a dashing Irish impulsiveness and an English frankness and good-nature which form a singularly happy whole.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

A Private Inquiry. By C. H. Ross. 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

Bessy Rane. By Mrs. Henry Wood. 3 vols. (Bentley.)

Lorna Doone. By R. D. Blackmore. (Low & Co.)

It is difficult to say for what class of readers Mr. Ross's book is intended. Its style and price forbid the supposition that it has been written for that portion of the poorer classes who revel in the penny horrors of cheap periodical literature, yet it is sad to think that any who can afford more wholesome reading should waste their time in the perusal of such gloomy rubbish. The story turns upon a murder, that of a harsh and sordid father by his miserable child, which by a series of wretched complications is attributed to the only tolerably virtuous character in the book. Ruth Acre, the widow of the murdered usurer, is the object of this calumny, being in fact, though somewhat weak and unpronounced in disposition, a model of patient constancy and suffering. Circumstances have led her to suspect her own father's complicity in the tragic end of her late husband, and, to shield him from the consequences of the guilt which she attributes to him, she shrinks from an investigation which might prove her own innocence of the crime. She supplies her enemies, whose object it is to wring from her certain sums of money of which she is supposed to have possessed herself on her husband's death, with a fearful weapon against her, by inducing a scampish doctor, who afterwards plays her false, to give an improper certificate of the cause of Jabez Acre's end. The hero, if hero he may be called, by whose agency she is at length rescued, is a converted thief and amateur detective, who becomes comparatively respectable through contemplation of the graces of the Iphigenia of Soho. Lady Lad, an old and parsimonious dowager, whose character is handled with a coarseness which we suppose we must accept as humour, Charity Stone, a hard-natured maid-servant, whose single interesting trait is her tenderness for a worthless son, various thieves and receivers of stolen goods, two stage policemen, Messrs. Hardstaff and Copper, form the rank and file of the story,

—altogether a goodly band with which to march through Coventry. Jane Acre, the precocious murderess, is strong in her utter fiendishness, and is the portrait upon which the author has expended his utmost skill. For the result we cannot say much; with her plain exterior and "wishy-washy" hair, her downright ferocity in love and hatred, and her extravagant adventures in the pursuit of either gratification, she is too repulsive to fascinate any one but the haunted reviewer, who reads with an effort, and struggles to forget her story.

The story of 'Bessy Rane' depends for its interest on the extreme complexity of the relations between the various characters. Marriage sheds its halo over the early chapters, as well as the conclusion; and by the simple expedient of marrying most of her *dramatis personæ* twice in the first thirty pages, Mrs. Wood obtains a ramification of cousinhood sufficient to gratify the most exacting of British matrons. We all know the interest with which marriage and its results, phenomena ever fresh, though constantly recurring, are discussed round the tea-tables of the average wife or widow, not altogether because the female nature is ἀνθρωπολόγος, as Aristotle would say, but rather from a feeling of veteran satisfaction in the topic. To this large class of readers the author addresses herself, and we doubt not she will do so with success, though there is nothing very interesting, and nothing very elevating in her book. Indeed, there is a dash of strange principles pervading it, which is all the more invidious because the tone of the story is avowedly moral. The plot hinges upon three incidents, which have no apparent connexion with each other, always excepting the complicated relations of the parties. The first of these is the death of Bessy Rane's brother in a fit, which has been brought on by reading an anonymous letter to his discredit, a letter which turns out to have been written for a purpose unconnected with its victim by Oliver Rane, who afterwards marries Bessy. Excepting a great deal of suspicion and discomfort, no obvious results follow from this sordid action. The second is the conspiracy of Bessy Rane and her husband to defraud the trustees of a Tontine, in which they are the last survivors, by representing Bessy to be dead, in order that Oliver may obtain the money to which the last liver is entitled. This gross fraud does not seem to strike Mrs. Wood as otherwise than venial; and as Dr. Rane is suspected of having murdered his wife, and is shown to have only concealed her, with her own connivance, he comes out in the end as rather a hero than otherwise. The third element in the tale is the love of Ellen Adair and Arthur Bohun, in the course of which the gentleman, accepting without inquiry a scandalous story against the father of his betrothed, deserts her on the very day of their intended marriage, and the poor girl pines into consumption, of which she dies, after a final reconciliation with her weak and ungentlemanly lover. Of course there are some other subjects touched upon; amongst them the follies of trades' unions, which Mrs. Wood rebukes through the mouth of Mrs. Gass, a strong-minded and warm-hearted woman, of a type that only wants originality to be interesting. Jelly, a maid-servant, is intended for a humorous character, but the only thing odd about her is her name.

The autobiography of a Devonshire yeoman,

relating the growth of his love and the development of his nature amid the romantic surroundings of Exmoor in the olden time, affords Mr. Blackmore an opportunity for the display of powers already known to be of a high order. The task he has set himself in this book is a worthy one; and if the mantle of Defoe has not quite fallen on his shoulders, if the subjectiveness of the nineteenth century too often encumbers the simple diction of the seventeenth, giving a patchwork effect to the result, yet there is a not unsuccessful effort to revive the pregnant simplicity of the golden age of English prose, and amid too elaborate descriptions of the effect of the beauties of nature, the sturdy manhood of John Ridd stands out as the product of an influence he could never have described. The besetting sin of Mr. Blackmore's style is over-elaboration, and whenever he avoids this extreme, he can write nervous and powerful English. But the present story, excellent as it is where John Ridd's own conversations and actions are concerned, is much marred by inconsistent digressions of the Wordsworth-and-water sort. Is it within the bounds of possibility that the honest yeoman, whose doings in London and elsewhere are so racy described, and who could tell a boyish adventure in the excellent manner of the chapter, 'Hard it is to climb,' should also maunder upon autumnal woods in the following style? "Then the woods arose in folds, like drapery of awakened mountains, stately with a depth of awe and memory of the tempests. Autumn's mellow hand was on them, as they owned already, touched with gold and red and olive: and their joy towards the sun was less to the bridegroom than a father." Or of a winding stream, "curving in its brightness like diverted hope"; or of dew on the grass, "that grey suffusion, which is the blush of green life, spread its damask chastity"? It will be seen from these specimens that there is many a pretty thought contained in Mr. Blackmore's descriptive passages, but even when they are quite free from bombast, they are couched in a language inconsistent with the character of the supposed narrator. We have dwelt somewhat at length upon what we regard as the faults of this book, because we gladly acknowledge its numerous merits. The giant of Plovas Barrows is the model of a kindly, modest Englishman, truthful, simple, brave and pure, yet with a shrewdness of observation and ready country wit which stand him in good stead in many a narrow strait. Furthermore, John is a poet, and his humour, which is everywhere apparent, is of that true stamp, which constantly borders upon pathos. It is refreshing, in this age of well-informed mediocrity, to find an author capable of describing so large a nature. The characters among whom our hero moves are strong in their individuality. From the men of action like Mr. Taggus, the redoubted highwayman, and Jeremy Stickle, the kind-hearted officer of law, down to the rugged miner, Carfax, and John Fry, with his rustic mixture of cunning and simplicity, all have their own points of interest; while the women, from the high-born Lorna down to honest Betty Muxworthy, are still more capably described. The political events of the time, the stirring days of Sedgemoor and the Bloody Assize, are touched upon, but never unduly prominent, while their influence on the story has always its

natural importance. The common faults of the historical novel are thus avoided, although the dignity of fiction is raised by an element of reality. We have neither space nor inclination to defraud the author or the reader by revealing the plot; suffice it to say, that there is a romantic tale involved in it, and that the deeds of John Ridd, and the might that he showed, and the war he waged with the Doones of Bagworthy, form the groundwork of a well-written story, which will be read with unusual interest.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Honduras: Descriptive, Historical and Statistical. By E. G. Squier, M.A. (Trübner & Co.)

THE Inter-Oceanic Railway through Honduras will be completed by the end of 1872. It will to a great extent supersede the Panama line as a connecting link between the Atlantic and Pacific. It is well, therefore, that we should learn from so good an authority as Mr. Squier its advantages and prospects. No one can tell us more about them than he can, for it was upon his report, drawn up after examining the country from February to December, 1853, that the line was adopted. He tells us, then, that the distance from Liverpool to San Francisco, *via* Panama, is 7,950 miles, and by Honduras only 7,320 miles; from New York to San Francisco, *via* Panama, 5,224 miles, by Honduras 4,121 miles. Owing to the facilities of the Honduras route, the passenger from New York to California will save from eight to ten days by taking it, and he will escape the region of hurricanes. Not only the Panama route, but that also by Tehuantepec is shorter than by Honduras, as far as the interval between the oceans is concerned; but the arguments in favour of the Honduras route are irresistible, for on the Atlantic side is the good haven of Port Cortez, and on the Pacific side the unrivalled harbour of Amapala, which is, besides, a free port. The climate of Honduras is salubrious, and, except on the coast towards the Atlantic, yellow fever is unknown, and even there rare; and the mean temperature is but 70 degrees. The country is lovely, and rivals California in its mineral wealth; the inhabitants are peaceful, and every product of the vegetable world is grown in abundance and of surpassing quality. Such are Mr. Squier's descriptive statements; and we accept them, and think Lord Clarendon justified in promoting the construction of the Honduras Railway by the Treaties of the 26th of August, 1856, and the 28th of November, 1859. We augur well of the line which will carry, we are told, 26,000,000 dollars' worth of merchandise for the Central American Republics alone. But when we come to some of the other statistics we are fairly puzzled. At pp. 10 and 11 there are tables of the area and population of the American State which are outrageously discordant with those of other authorities. On looking at the Statesman's Year-book we see, for example, the area and population of Chili, Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia, or North Granada, as Mr. Squier continues to call it, set down at 249,952 square miles, 1,676,243 souls; 473,300 square miles, 1,742,352 souls; 4,891,394 square miles, 11,780,000 souls; 432,400 square miles, 2,954,000 souls: whereas, here we find them stated at 170,000 square miles, 1,300,000 souls; 380,000 square miles, 1,200,000 souls; 2,720,000 square miles, 4,430,000 souls; 380,000 square miles, 1,360,000 souls. Two millions of square miles and seven millions of human beings are not small items of account, and we find it as impossible to explain such differences as to understand the Indian Budget.

The Literature of the Lancashire Dialect: a Bibliographical Essay. By W. E. A. Axon. (Trübner & Co.)

THIS little pamphlet of twenty-three pages shows how extensive the literature of Lancashire really is. The specimens of the dialect are not only very numerous, but frequently very good. Mr. Axon has himself contributed five of these, and now

promises a book on the Songs, Ballads and Folklore of the county, which can hardly fail to be useful. The principal contributors to the literature are the celebrated "Tim Bobbin" (J. Collier), Benjamin Brierley, M. R. Lahee, Samuel Laycock, J. W. Mellor, J. T. Staton, and Edwin Waugh. Mr. Axon seems to have forgotten that Furness is in Lancashire. We miss from his list the sketches named 'T Siege o' Brou'ton,' 'T Lebbey Beck Dobby,' and 'T Invasion o' U'ston,' all in the Furness dialect, as well as 'The Glossary of Words and Phrases of Furness,' by Mr. J. P. Morris, 1869. May not also the old 'Alliterative Poems,' edited by Dr. Morris for the Early English Text Society, be claimed for Lancashire?

We have on our table *The Oration of Demosthenes in Answer to Æschines upon the Crown*, translated by W. Brandt, M.A. (Longmans),—*Educational Legislation*, by T. Turner (Simpkin),—*The Ornithosauria*, by H. G. Seeley (Bell & Daldy),—*A Manual of Ethics*, by H. Osgan, LL.D. (Hogg),—*Elements of Mechanism*, by T. M. Goodeve, M.A. (Longmans),—*Solar Fictions*, by A. Freeman (Seeley),—*What we demand from France*, by Heinrich von Treitschke (Macmillan),—*Louis Napoleon Bonaparte*, by Max Ring (Berlin),—*A Manual of Instruction for Attendants on Sick and Wounded in War*, by Staff Assistant-Surgeon A. Moffitt (Griffin),—Book VI. of *The Consecutive Narrative Series of Reading Books*, by C. Morell (Murby),—*Tales and Legends in Verse*, by A. Buckler, Part I. (J. B. Day),—*Lyra Resurrectionis*, by I. T. Tor (Simpkin),—and *Night unto Night*, a Selection of Bible Scenes, by the Rev. D. March, D.D. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.). Among new editions we have: *England under the Tudors*, by J. Birchall (Simpkin),—*England under the Stuarts*, by J. Birchall (Simpkin),—*The Farm, Garden, Stable and Aviary*, edited by "I. E. B. C.," Part II. 'The Garden' (Horace Cox),—and *The Poetical Works of William Couper*, Globe Edition, edited by W. Benham (Macmillan).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Alford's *Coming of the Bridegroom*, 1/6 cl.
Blunt's *Dictionary of Doctrinal and Historical Theology*, Part 2, imp. 8vo. 21/ swd.; complete, 1 vol. imp. 8vo. 42/ cl.
Cumming's *Seventh Vial, or Time of Trouble Begun*, cr. 8vo. 6/ d.
Day's *The Church, Sermons in Limerick Cathedral*, cr. 8vo. 5/ d.
Fragments *Evangelica*, Pt. 1, curante J. Crowfoot, 4to. 5/ swd.
Henry's *First Scripture Lessons*, 'New Testament,' 1/ cl.
Maurice's *Lord's Prayer, The Creed and Commandments*, 1/ cl.
Prayers and Meditations for Holy Communion, 32mo. 2/6 cl.
Soltani's *The Tabernacle of Israel*, illust. roy. 8vo. 16/ cl.
Swainson's *Athanasian Creed and its Usage*, &c. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Wedgwood's *John Wesley*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Wright's (E.) *Life, Incidents in*, by E. Leach, 12mo. 5/ cl.

Law.

Dicey's *Rules for Selection of Parties to an Action*, 8vo. 16/ cl.
Statutes (Public General) passed in 1870, roy. 8vo. 13/ bds.

Philosophy.

Osgan's *Manual of Ethics for Universities*, &c. 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Poetry.

Bell's *Poets, Thomson's Poetical Works*, Memoir by Bell, 2 vols. 2/6: Butler's *Hudibras*, Memoir by Bell, 2/6 cl.
Campbell's *Poems*, Memoir by Rev. C. Rogers, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Longfellow's *Poetical Works*, illust. by Edwards, 21/ cl.
Mackay's *The Village Chimes, a Pastoral*, &c. 5/ cl.
Wordsworth's *Poetical Works*, illust. by Edwards, 21/ cl.

History.

Cassell's *Illustrated History of England*, new ed. Vol. 5, 9/ d.
Froude's *History of England*, cheap ed. Vols. 9 and 10, 6/ each.
Palmerston's (Viscount) *Life*, by Sir H. L. Bulwer, 2 vols. 30/ cl.
Martineau's *Biographical Sketches*, new ed. cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Geography.

Low's (Lieut.) *The Land of the Sun, Travels in the East*, 12mo. 5/ d.
Stewart & Co.'s *Eleven Years in Western States of America*, 2/6 cl.

Science.

Duncan's *Mortality of Childbed and Maternity Hospitals*, 7/6 cl.
Clarke's *Manual of Surgery, Bandages and Splints*, 32mo. 7/ cl.
Flower's *Introduction to the Osteology of the Mammalia*, 7/6 cl.
Knox's (R.) *Life and Writings*, by Lonsdale, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.
Williams's *Choice Ornamental-Leaved Plants*, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.

General Literature.

Beeton's *Modern Men and Women*, 12mo. 1/ swd.
Brown's (Mrs. J. W.) *Muriel's Dreamland*, Photos. 6/ cl.
Adviser (The), Vol. 1870, 1/6 cl. limp.
Anderson's *Model Women*, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Auerbach's *Country House on the Rhine*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Ballantyne's *Floating Light of the Goodwin Sands*, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Children's (The) *Prize*, Vol. 1870, 1/2 swd.
Chatterbox (The), Vol. 1870, 3/ bds.
Countess (The) *Gisela*, from the German of Marlitt, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Day's *Papers on the Great Pyramid*, &c. 8vo. 4/ cl.
Dasent's *Annals of an Eventful Life*, new edit. cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Eliot's (Mrs.) *Cris Fairlie's Boyhood*, 12mo. 5/ cl.

Henty's *Out on the Pampas, or Young Settlers*, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Howells's *True Theory of the Greek Aorist*, 12mo. 1/ swd.
Hunt's (Leigh) *Men, Women and Books*, cheap edit. 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Lothrop's *Glen Luna, or Dollars and Cents*, new edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Laurie's *Technical Reading Books*, Book 5, 12mo. 1/3 cl.
Martyrs omitted by Foxe, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Mother's (The) *Friend*, Vol. 2, new series 1/6 bds.
Marion's *Wonderful Balloon Ascents*, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Mazza's *Life and Writings*, Vol. 6. Critical and Literary. 9/ d.
Naylor's *Observations on Rules in English Language*, 8vo. 5/ cl.
Old Stories of Animals, in Short and Easy Words, 2/6 cl.
Popular (The) *Educator*, new ed. Vol. 6, imp. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Peacock's *Ralph Skirlaugh, the Lincolnshire Squire*, 3 vols. 31/6 cl.
Shaw's *Gems and Pearls, Choice Readings*, 12mo. 2/ cl.
Tergolina's *Faithful unto Death*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Wood's (Lady) *On Credit*, 2 vols. 12mo. 16/ cl.
Warne's *Picture-Puzzle Album*, col. 4to. 5/ cl.

OBEDIENCE.

(FROM THE FRENCH OF CATULLE MENDÈS.)

[We have received the following translation from M. Antoine d'Abbadie, of the French Institute. The illustrious *savant* has fled from Paris, and found a refuge at Hendaye (Basses Pyrénées).]

AHOD his hundred flocks in Bethel fed.
His wife, with pitcher reeking from the stream,
Beneath a tree one noontide laid her head,
Then slept and saw this woe-betiding dream:
At first it seemed that from her sleep she woke.
"Woman, arise! ('twas thus old Ahod spoke)
To Segor's traders ninety lambs I sold
Last year, and half the price they still withhold.
Such length of road my weight of years would rue:
Yet bold and trusty messengers are few.
Who can I send to Segor in my name?
Now haste thee, go, my twenty shekels claim."
She pleaded not the distance, not her fear,
Nor robbers prowling in the desert near,
But said, "Your handmaid hears her lord's command."
As to the road, he slowly waved his hand;
She took her woollen cloak and gaily went.
In devious paths the waning day she spent:
Now sand, now flints her feeble strides defeat;
Tears in her eyes, and blood upon her feet.
Then darkness quelled the fading aid of light,
And fear came whispering through the shades of night.
Still on she sped in anguish. At the ford
A man came yelling with a naked sword,
And robbed her cloak, and with a fiendish start
He drove his weapon through her throbbing heart.
This height of woe her fitful slumbers broke.
Lo! hoary Ahod, standing by her, spoke:
"Woman, arise! To Segor's men I sold
My lambs, and half the price they still withhold.
Such length of road my weight of years would rue:
Yet bold and trusty messengers are few.
Who can I send to Segor in my name?
Now haste thee, go, my twenty shekels claim."
The wife replied, "My master's will be done";
Then wrapt her children in her fond embrace,
Invoked a blessing on her first-born son,
And took her woollen cloak and went apace.
But not before her anxious heart did seek,
With upturned eyes, the heavenly abode
Of Him who curbs the proud, who lifts the meek,
And guards at will a solitary road.

NEW BOOKS.

AMONG Mr. Walton's announcements are Sir Edward Creasy's 'History of England; from the Earliest Times to the End of the Middle Ages,' complete in 2 vols.,—'The Student's Manual of Ancient History,' edited by Dr. William Smith,—'Handbook of the Principles and Practice of Medicine,' by James Andrew, M.D.,—Dr. Eustace Smith 'On the Wasting Diseases of Children,' second edition, thoroughly revised and enlarged, with a new chapter on the Proper Diet for Children,—Prof. De Morgan's 'Book of Almanacks for any Day preceding A.D. 2000.'

Among Mr. Stock's announcements are the following:—'Lights and Shadows from the Life of David, and their Lessons for our Own Time,' by the Rev. Charles Vince,—'Christ's Healing Touch,' by the Rev. A. Mackennal,—'The Biblical Museum,' a New Commentary, by the Rev. J. C. Gray,—a new and cheaper edition of Dr. Cramp's 'History of the Baptists,' with an Introduction by Dr. Angus,—and 'A History of Wesleyan Missions, from their Commencement to the Present Time,' by the Rev. W. Moister.

Among Mr. Van Voorst's announcements are the following scientific works:—'The Natural His-

tory of the British Diatomaceæ,' by Arthur Scott Donkin, M.D.,—'The Natural History of the Azores,' by F. Du Cane Godman, F.L.S.,—'The Ornithology of Shakespeare,' by J. E. Harting,—'Heads of Lectures on Geology and Mineralogy,' delivered at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, by Prof. Rupert Jones,—A fourth edition, by Prof. Alfred Newton, of 'Yarrell's British Birds,'—Dr. Bevan 'On the Honey Bee,' a revised and enlarged edition, by W. Augustus Munn,—Prof. Frankland's 'Lecture Notes for Chemical Students,' Vol. 2. (Organic Chemistry),—and a fourth edition of Prof. Rymer Jones's 'Organization of the Animal Kingdom.'

PARIS AND THE WAR.

(Par Ballon Monté.)

Paris, Oct. 17.

THE aspect of affairs is somewhat improved; several offensive reconnaissances have been made under the direction of General Trochu, Ducrot, Vinoy, Blanchard and others, and have been pushed to a considerable distance, as far as Argenteuil, Rueil, Chevilly, near Seaux, Thiais, Neuilly-sur-Marne, Bondy, and beyond Saint-Denis; in fact, to points nearly all round Paris to the distance of six or seven miles from the fortifications. Some of these expeditions have been highly successful, and none have completely failed; many batteries and redoubts have been destroyed, and the strength and position of the enemy have been ascertained. Another important result has been achieved: the new corps have taken their share of the work with the regulars, and the Mobiles of the Seine, the Côte d'Or, the Aube and Brittany, Francs-tireurs, and Éclaireurs, and two battalions of the Gardiens, formed of the late Sergents-de-ville, all old soldiers, have exhibited undaunted courage and readiness, and won the honour of mention in General Trochu's orders of the day. These facts have naturally raised all these new levies greatly in the public estimation; and now the National Guard, jealous of their standing, are to furnish corps for field duty, and will, doubtless, emulate the Mobiles and other corps.

The death of the young Comte de Dampierre has created a deep impression: he was well known in Paris as one of the *jeunesse dorée*, or the "*jeunesse qui ne fait rien*," as M. Legouvé calls it in his sparkling comedy, the concluding lines of which are naturally now called to mind:—

Le monde veut qu'on ait une profession,
Et le monde a raison; mais par exception,
N'êtes vous rien? Tachez que votre exemple enseigne
Qu'on peut faire du bien quoiqu'on n'ait pas d'enseignement;
Et pour que l'on pardonne à votre oisiveté,
Utilisez un peu votre inutilité.

When the Comte de Dampierre joined the Mobiles of his department he was unanimously elected commandant of his battalion, and on presenting it with its colours declared solemnly that he would do his duty as became one of an old and honourable family; and nobly did he keep his vow. The funeral service was performed the day before yesterday, at the Madeleine, which was densely crowded, every branch of the army being represented, and General Trochu with his staff being present as well as the staff of the National Guard. Two simple touching addresses were made over his remains, which are deposited in the vaults of the church until they can be conveyed to the resting-place of his family. It is a sign of the times that under a republic *Figaro* should say—"Count the dead since the commencement of the campaign, sort the corpses, and you will see how many gentlemen are amongst them!" Such lines would have caused *Figaro's* house to have been burnt over his head in 1848.

The post-office balloons have, we believe, all reached their destination, to the great vexation of the enemy: that in which M. Rane left the other day had two shells fired at it while passing over Champigny; it escaped harm, but the shells killed one Mobile, and severely wounded two others who were practising at the target in a field near Adamville.

It is announced by the Government that all the pictures, tapestry, and other works of art, and

objects of curiosity, were brought into Paris from the Château of Saint Cloud before the investment; amongst the works of art were Pradier's 'Sappho,' and the statue of 'Night,' by Collet. The Murillo had, it seems, been returned to the Louvre, whence it never ought to have been removed, in August last. The building of the *Institut* is being protected by the same means as were applied to the Louvre and other establishments, the embrasures of the windows and other parts being filled with sacks of earth; the vaults beneath are large and airy, and in these are deposited the most valuable books, manuscripts, and curiosities belonging not only to the *Institut* but also to the *Bibliothèque Nationale*.

The present war has brought to memory some curiosities of literature: amongst the rest one of Joseph de Maistre's paradoxes, to the effect that at certain times a great war is indispensable for the regeneration of nations, whose civilization and life are saved thereby; and as commentary on this it is said that there never were so few quarrels as at the present moment, that suicide is unheard of, and the Morgue empty! Logically, the major has swallowed the minor; that is all.

In one month nearly twenty new papers have been started in Paris, most of them of the ultra class and published at one sou; one of them appears four times a day. Six, if not more, are already defunct. The new Government has decreed the liberty of the press, but this does evidently not include that of press men, for M. E. Portalis, of the *Vérité*, is now a prisoner in the Conciergerie, as he says in a letter, "in a cell which held Tropmann, and between two assassins," for asking some awkward questions relative to Lyons and the Orleans princes, and is to be tried before a Council of War for having circulated false news, tending to provoke disobedience to the laws and civil war. No government can, of course, allow violent attacks to be made upon it with impunity, at such times as these; but to lock a journalist up in the Conciergerie is scarcely compatible with freedom of the press or any other freedom. M. Jules Simon is determined, if possible, to push forward the work of education in spite of the war. He has for years worked hard for the improvement of female education, and he now proposes to the Maire of Paris to found at once normal schools for the instruction of both male and female teachers of private schools. It appears that there are ten departments in France in which there are no such schools, and that the metropolitan department is one of the ten. As to normal schools for female teachers, there are but nine in all France; the Sisters, who, ignorant as many of them are, are alone allowed to teach without undergoing examination and obtaining diplomas, have nearly the whole of the female primary schools in their hands. This, of course, is utterly opposed to M. Jules Simon's views, and he will alter it if possible.

The Academies continue to hold their regular meetings; at that of the Academy of Inscriptions, held some days since, M. Egger related some researches he had made respecting the Optics of Ptolemy; he found in a papyrus brought from Egypt by M. Mariette some passages in Greek concerning the question of optics; and there exist in the library (of the *Institut*?) some Latin manuscripts containing passages translated from Syrian, which make mention of similar questions. Lastly, in the Ambrosian Library of Milan similar passages have been found in the works of P. Ventura. M. Egger has not been able to find a trace of this text in the four books of the Optics of Ptolemy, and believes they must belong to the first book, which is not known to be in existence. He appeals to *savants*, who, he hopes, by comparing Latin and Syrian texts, will be able to clear up this obscure point in the history of science.

Conferences and meetings are beginning to be held again in aid of the war and the sufferers from it; one is now held every Wednesday at the Sorbonne; at the first of these M. Boutteville gave a discourse on free education and schools for the children of the defenders of Paris; and Dr. Bertillon addressed ladies who had devoted themselves to ambulance service on the first measures to be taken for the relief of the wounded.

The *Ecole des Beaux Arts* re-commences its courses in all the classes, and opens its library and ateliers to-day.

It is an excellent sign that the Parisians are finding a little of their gaiety again. The writers in the popular journals are, of course, the chief providers. Two of these gentlemen visited an outpost the other day, when a few Prussians came in sight of the loopholes at which they were stationed; they begged to be allowed to have a shot each, which they obtained, and were going off thinking little more about it, when a man called out, "Here! I've got your Prussian!" and then they found out that they had actually killed a man, but which of them did it nobody could possibly say; they were both impressed with two opposite sentiments, and were at a loss whether to claim the honour of having fought in defence of the country, or to sink under the imputation of having committed murder!

The number of hospital-beds is, fortunately, far larger than the number of wounded, and this gives rise to many jokes; one ambulance is actually kept open, it is declared, by spoiling the only patient in it with good things, and so retarding his convalescence. A lady meets a friend in the street and says, "Ah! you are an officer; I hope if you are wounded you will come to my ambulance?"—"Very sorry, Madame, I cannot oblige you, but I am booked six deep already." Ambulance work is not so much to the taste of some ladies as that of the *vivandière*. A well-known actress offered her services as *cantinière* to a volunteer corps: "Are you married?" was the first question—"Mon Dieu! non!" And now she dines at Brebant's daily, with an infirmity apron on. Hospital anecdotes are plentiful. A young Mobile had his leg broken, and it was set by a terribly slow practitioner; when the job was done and the surgeon's back turned, the Mobile said to his next bed-neighbour, "I have got a ball in my back, too, but I was not going to tell him; il m'a trop embêté."

The Brittany men are dreadfully shocked at some things in Paris: several of them the other day stood, almost with tears in their eyes, opposite a hideous caricature of the Pope; a gentleman saw at a glance what was the matter, bought all the copies of the print, and immediately tore them into fragments.

The following is original of its kind:—A patient of Dr. Blanche, the famous physician of the insane, having recovered, asked permission to write to his family: "Make haste, then," said the doctor, "for the balloon starts to-morrow."—"The railway you mean, surely, doctor?"—"Ah! I had forgotten to tell you that since you were ill Paris is besieged and cut off from all communication." The poor man turned fearfully pale: "I thought I was cured, and you tell me such stories as this!" Dr. Blanche was compelled to take his patient to the fortifications to prevent a relapse.

Here is a rampart story:—A Zouave was determined to visit his *fiancée*, and got out without accident, but on his return was seen and fired at, but not hit; the gunners in Fort Issy, hearing the firing, began throwing shells; and Fort Vanvres followed the example. The enemy is said to have suffered severely, all because a Zouave went to see his sweetheart at Meudon.

The Mobiles do their best to make their encampments gay; some of the huts are covered with comic inscriptions, such as "Wanted a good cook; she must know how to take care of children"—"No Prussians admitted; the *conciierge* is on the first floor"—"Wanted a maid-of-all-work," &c. On the Boulevard des Batignolles a regular concert is established, which opens every evening between seven and nine o'clock; the *impresario* and conductor is an old pupil of the Conservatoire, a comic singer as well as a musician; another performer was lately a singer at the El Dorado, and rouses the audience into enthusiasm with the 'Cri de Vengeance.' At the termination of the performance, a collection is made for the wounded. Over the cooking-place of one corps hangs a fine cat-skin, with the inscription "Au bon lapin-sauté."

Horse beef gives rise to hundreds of jokes:—"It is proposed to tax horse-flesh! By the hour or by

the distance?"—"Horses were formerly stimulated by the spur, now it is by mustard"—"Garçon! un chapon au gros sel"—"Garçon! un filet de cheval sans sel." Comic definitions and dictionaries have long been the rage; here are two of the present moment: "*Fusil*—une arme que font partir les braves, et qui fait partir les poltrons!" "*Mitrailleuse*—Un ogre (*orgue*) de barbarie!"

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

Boston, Oct. 8th, 1870.

THERE has been of late a manifest improvement in commercial and mercantile activity in the United States, many causes contributing thereto. Possibly the predominant cause has been the abundance and excellence of the crops just harvested. Business prosperity acts favourably upon the makers and publishers of books; hence our book season starts off with briskness and flattering promise. We have already the announcements of the leading publishers; and they herald *multa* in native and republished foreign literature, though whether the *multa* will also be *multum* we have yet to see. Messrs. Appleton have just issued Mrs. Oliphant's 'Three Brothers' in pamphlet form, and Mr. Disraeli's 'Young Duke.' Mrs. Oliphant has a rather quiet reputation, though one widely spread, among us; and her books are to be found in houses and among a class where a cultivated author would be best pleased to know them to be. Messrs. Appleton will republish Prof. Huxley's 'Lay Sermons,' Lockyer's 'Elements of Astronomy,' and Sir John Lubbock's 'Origin of Civilization': while their new American books will be a plea for free trade by Mr. Grosvenor; a novel, 'Valerie Aylmer,' by Christian Reid; and a work on 'Suburban Home Grounds,' by F. J. Scott. Besides the works which I have mentioned in former letters, Messrs. Fields, Osgood & Co. will favour us with a new volume of Whittier's poems, entitled 'Miriam, and other Poems,' mostly gathered from magazines, and a few being new. They will also issue a new book for young people, by Mrs. Beecher Stowe; Mr. Bayard Taylor's new version of 'Faust'; 'The Geology and Physical Geography of Brazil,' by Prof. Hartt, of Cornell University, who accompanied Prof. Agassiz to the Southern Continent, and whose book is supplementary to that written by our Cambridge *Savant*, and an American edition of Mr. Frederick Locker's 'London Lyrics,' which are already much quoted in our papers. The 'Faust' will contain full and interesting notes collected with much labour by the translator. A book already mentioned by you, is to be published by Little & Brown, of this city, 'Plutarch's Morals,' in five volumes, the principal attraction of which will be an elaborate introduction by Mr. Emerson, whose estimate of the old Chæronæan is looked for with curiosity. The principal works to be issued by Messrs. Charles Scribner & Co.,—a house which has rapidly risen within the past few years, and which is notable for the many theological works which it publishes,—are De Pressensé's 'Early Years of the Christian Church,' Lange's 'Commentary on the Sacred Scriptures,' (this volume comprising Galatians, Ephesians, Philipians, and Colossians); 'Theology of Christ,' by the Rev. J. P. Thompson, and 'Bible Notes for Daily Readers.' In Belles Lettres they will publish Prof. Porter's (of Yale College) 'Books and Reading,' which is to be a guide book for those who desire to pursue a course of general or of special reading; a popular edition of Froude's History, as well as his 'Short Studies on Great Subjects'; a new volume of the illustrated library of wonders, on 'Lighthouses and Lightships,' by W. H. D. Adams; the last volume of Mommsen's Rome; and a new edition of Pouchet's 'Universe.' In our magazine literature, an interesting change has just been made in the titles of two of our popular periodicals,—*Hours at Home*, published by Scribner, and *Putnam's Monthly*, published by G. P. Putnam. The name of the new issue will be *Scribner's Monthly*, and it will be issued by Scribner; it is to be illustrated, which its predecessors were not; and its editor will be Dr. J. G.

Holland, whose 'Bitter Sweet,' 'Katrine,' 'Life of Lincoln,' and works under the *nom de plume* of 'Timothy Titcomb,' promise good management for the new venture.

Messrs. Hind & Houghton propose to publish two more of Hans Andersen's books, 'The Story of my Life,' and a volume of his shorter stories and tales; they will also issue a complete edition of the works of Frederick S. Cozzens, author of the 'Sparrowgrass Papers,' 'A Handbook of Legendary and Mythological Art,' by Clara Clement; a book by W. D. Howells, editor of the *Atlantic*, 'Suburban Sketches,' on Italian life; and the concluding volumes of 'South's Sermons,' 'Smith's Dictionary of the Bible,' and 'The Surgery of the War,' by Dr. F. H. Hamilton.

Our lecture season is about commencing, and from the interest manifested in it, and the encouragement given by the public to the lyceums, one would judge that not only has the lecture system not been overdone, but that it is growing in favour. Lectures are emphatically an amusement with us, and divide the evenings of the amusement-seeking public with the drama and the dancing parties. The various series are properly interspersed with concerts, Shakspearean readings, and interesting discussions; and the subjects of the lectures themselves vary as widely as can be conceived, as you may judge when I tell you that we are to have lectures on 'Girls,' 'Charles Dickens,' and 'The Divinity of Christ.' Among the announced lecturers here are Thomas Hughes, M.P., who will open one of our courses next week with an address on 'John to Jonathan,' Senators Sumner and Shurz (both on the war), Keshub Chunder Sen, the Hindoo theist, Mr. Curtis, Miss Anna Dickinson, Henry Ward Beecher, besides ladies of more or less eloquence, and humourists of more or less wit. Indeed, the number of the gentler sex who offer themselves as lecturers is a very significant sign of the times, and it is but fair to say that there are some among them quite as well qualified to entertain, no less than instruct, an audience as the best of their masculine rivals. Often the lecturers advertise on their own responsibility, but the usual method is to leave their names at the "literary bureaux," whither the lyceum committees resort for their annual supplies. Mr. Emerson will probably lecture but little publicly this year, as he has received an invitation to deliver a series of lectures before the undergraduates of Harvard University. I may mention that Mr. Henry Brooks Adams, son of our late envoy to England, whose articles in the *North American Review* have attracted much attention, has been appointed Assistant Professor of History at Harvard. Boston is awaiting with high expectation the arrival of Mlle. Nilsson, who has achieved a substantial triumph in New York, though there are circles who deny her very great merit. What with the Swedish songstress, our annual Symphony concerts, Italian Opera, Opéra Bouffe, and Miss Mehlig, the pianist, we are not likely to pine for the harmonies. Mr. Fechter is having a decided success—if crowded houses constitute theatrical success—in the management of the Globe Theatre, where 'Monte Christo,' admirably mounted and performed well in all its parts, has been running for more than a month, and seems likely to prosper yet another. The Lydia Thompson "British Blondes" have just left us, to return later in the season. In New York, the histrionic attraction of the hour is Marie Seebach, the German tragic actress, who is performing Ristori's old rôles. Edwin Booth is in Chicago. Fisk, jun., is arranging to bring out a French company with Offenbach's opéra bouffe, very soon, at his opera house in New York.

The scientific expedition to the Far West under the lead of Prof. Marsh, of Yale College, will return soon, and is awaited with much curiosity by the savants. The custom of harvest festivals, in vogue in England, has just been introduced into this country at Milton, on the Hudson, by a "harvest home."

G. M. T.

Literary Gossip.

WE intend to commence shortly a series of sketches, under the general title of 'Dramatists of the Present Day.'

WE understand that the 'Diary of a Besieged Resident,' which appears in the *Daily News*, is from the pen of Mr. Labouchere, the late member for Middlesex.

MR. E. ARBER hopes to have his fac-simile of the first English New Testament ready in November, with an Introduction, correcting many errors of his predecessors. The Early English Text Society have given up in his favour their proposed edition of William Roy's celebrated satire against Cardinal Wolsey; and the book will next year take its place in Mr. Arber's "English Reprints."

OWING to the banishment of foreigners from Paris, we are to have a sale, at Messrs. Sotheby's, on December 5 and 6, of the most valuable part of the choice collection of the well-known M. Edwin Tross, of Paris. This comprises, besides rare books in beautiful bindings and condition, some manuscripts, that make a collector's mouth water: a vellum Psalter from Liège, of the eleventh or twelfth century,—a collection of Old French Poems of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, containing an unprinted *Chanson d'Amors de pure Pourteit*, in seven "*Tirades monorimes*," against the clergy, &c.,—a *Speculum Humane Salvationis* of the fourteenth or early fifteenth century (of which Mr. H. Huth has, we believe, a unique Early English verse translation), with illuminations, in the style of the early Block-books,—Richard de Bury's *Philobiblon*,—an Office of the Virgin, 1470 A.D., with a contemporary chased leather case by a Bolognese artist, perhaps unique, &c.,—and, sad to say, two collections of fine illuminated letters, &c., torn by some art-loving barbarians from the MSS. to which they belonged.

MR. BERNHARD TEN BRINK, whose excellent Chaucer 'Studien' we lately reviewed, has been appointed Professor of the Neo-Latin and English languages and literatures at the University of Marburg. His public lectures this session will be on Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales'; his private ones on the History of French Literature, from A.D. 1515 to 1789; and his private lessons on the Cid. Prof. Ten Brink has lately written a humorous letter, in English Chaucerian verse, accepting the Chaucer Society's proposal to have his 'Studien' translated for their series of Essays on Chaucer. The letter shows an astonishing command of our old poet's phrases and turns of speech.

THE final issue of the Ballad Society this year will be Part III. of Mr. William Chappell's edition of the Roxburghe Ballads, completing Vol. I. It is all in type, and will be ready for delivery early next month.

WE hear of a volume, among the Hopkinson MSS. at Eshton Hall, of manuscript Poetical Pieces of the times of Elizabeth and James the First, many of them satirical, and directed against the Puritans. One of our printing Societies, the Early English Text, Camden, Chetham, or Surtees, should see after this volume, and print it.

THE Rev. E. H. Knowles's edition of Laneham's Letter, describing the Earl of Leicester's entertainment to Queen Elizabeth, at Kenil-

worth, in 1575, will be ready next month, and will contain several fine photographs of the ruins of Kenilworth in their present state.

THE Germans have sent Dr. Holder, of Carlsruhe, to see if he can recover any fragments of the great Strasburg Library that they have burnt. As might be anticipated, the work of destruction had been effectually performed.

EPHEMERAL literature now and then challenges a note of admiration. A bazaar was lately held in Cork, for the benefit of the sick and wounded French soldiers. A local historian, in the *Cork Examiner*, says that "the tables literally groaned under the burden of the choicest meats and viands that the season could produce"—for the refreshment of the visitors!

THE first part of the Philological Society's *Transactions* for 1870 has just been issued, containing, among other papers, those by Mr. Alexander J. Ellis and D. P. Fry, on which the Society's discussion on Spelling-Reform is to take place on Friday evening, the 4th of November, at University College.

A RECENT visitor to Harris's community on Lake Erie, of which Mr. Lawrence Oliphant is a member, found them erecting a railway tavern and excavating wine-cellar.

AN entirely new edition, so the *New York Nation* says, with revisions and additions, of Mr. Walt Whitman's 'Leaves of Grass,' will soon appear; also, a sequel to the foregoing, entitled 'Passage to India,' and, in prose, 'Democratic Vistas,' by the same author.

THE Romance dialect of South Tyrol is being illustrated by Mr. Christopher Schneller. The first part of his work has lately appeared at Gera.

AN amusing and well-written volume of 'Proverbi e Modi di Dire,' illustrated by tales, has appeared from the pen of Signor Temistocle Gradi. It consists of fifteen *novelle*, written in illustration of the same number of proverbs in common use. Signor Gradi's *racconti* have earned him an honourable reputation, and he is now, in conjunction with Cavaliere Rigutini, engaged in bringing out a new Italian version of Plautus.

A NEW contribution to philology is a translation into French, by Émile Le Grand, of the songs and popular tales in that rare dialect—the Greek of Calabria. They ought to contain materials for folk-lore, in extension of Dr. Von Hahn, for there are Albanians in those parts as well as Greeks.

THE State of Salvador in Central America is seized with a vigorous reformatory movement. Education is declared to be compulsory, but we fear schools are few and far between: nevertheless, parents and masters of apprentices, who neglect to attend to the education of their children, are to be fined 10s. for "each offence," whatever that may mean. In this moral excitement all raffles are declared to be illegal, except those for the benefit of the clergy.

THE bibliographical novelty in *Trübner's Literary Record* is Malayalam literature, but it is chiefly of printed books, and those missionary. Among its interesting features may be mentioned two grammars of the language in English, an English and Malayalam school diction-

ary, 1,000 Malayalam proverbs, an almanack for 1870, geography and history of the country and the Panchatantra. It is evident that there is an effort to make the language better known to the English, and English to the natives.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—The FRAEGER FAMILY give their refined CONCERTS daily at half-past Three and Eight.—Prof. Pepper exhibits daily at a quarter to Three and quarter-past Seven, the Effecia, and describes the various modes of causing GHOSTS of human beings to appear and disappear, crawl, leap, and dance on walls, or float in space; also shows the latest novelty, viz. Grotesque Shadow Faces produced on the screen by Walnut Kernels.—Notes from a popular Opera by Suchet Champion.—The whole One Shilling.

SCIENCE

THE NORTH GERMAN ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

In our former article on this subject (September the 24th) brief mention only was made of the return of the Germania steamer to Bremen. Since then further particulars of the exploration accomplished by that vessel have come to hand, and of these we now present a summary.

The living equipment of the Germania comprised seventeen persons: Capt. Koldewey, four gentlemen for the scientific work, the other twelve being officers and crew. On the 29th of July, 1869, after parting company with their unlucky little consort, the Hansa, they pushed into the ice, heading westward with a view of making the eastern coast of Greenland. The loose drift they passed through easily, and aided by a good head of steam they forced their way through the heavy pack that in places stretched across their course. In 17° W. long. they noticed a change in the ice occasioned by a stream along the land, and on August the 5th they anchored under Sabine Island, one of the group of Pendulum Islands, the most northerly of the stations at which Captain (now General Sir Edward) Sabine made his pendulum experiments on the figure of the earth nearly half a century ago. The latitude and longitude were determined anew, and found in close agreement with the results obtained by their predecessor, and magnetic and other needful scientific observations were taken. On August the 10th they steamed northwards to Shannon Island, and finding the ice passable between the island and the main, they pressed onwards, but were eventually stopped by fixed ice in lat. 75° 31' N. and long. 17° 16' W. They made fast to the ice and waited, hoping for a storm to break up and open the frozen barrier. Persistent calm cheated their hope. They retreated; anchored under Cape Philip Brooke, and explored Shannon Island, and found it much larger than represented on the charts, but very desolate and dreary of aspect, yet with sufficient vegetation to feed a herd of musk oxen, one of which was shot.

Driven from their anchorage by drifting ice, they returned to the Pendulum Islands on August the 27th, and there waited for any change that might take place in the ice. The interior of Sabine Island was explored, and from the top of a mountain 4,000 feet high the party saw such an unbroken expanse of ice as convinced them they were prisoners for the winter. On their return a small island was visited, in which they discovered deposits of brown coal, and saw musk oxen and reindeer feeding on an abundant growth of Andromeda. The ship was moored in a small bay, and on September the 22nd was completely frozen in, and the usual preparations were made for passing the winter. Two observatories were built on the shore, one for magnetic, the other for astronomical and meteorological observations; a school was established, the library was brought into use, and the time passed cheerfully, notwithstanding a temperature at times of 25 degrees below freezing-point of Fahr. The heating stove was so efficient that with a consumption of seventy pounds of coal a day the ship was kept comfortably warm. Besides which the party ate fresh meat, ox or deer, every day. The animals were so numerous that during the winter 5,000 pounds of flesh were brought in.

At Christmas the temperature rose suddenly to -3°, so that they kept the festival with open doors and danced on the ice by starlight. But their

routine was disturbed by storms at times of long duration, hurricane-like in character, when their deck, though sheltered by a roof, would be buried under a few feet of penetrating snow-dust.

With the beginning of the present year, the temperature fell to -40° Fahr. On February 3rd the sun reappeared, and preparations for sledge journeys were begun. The first attempts failed. They set out again on March 24th, and though still delayed by storms, they passed the Haystack, and on Good Friday found themselves in lat. 77° 1' N. and long. 18° 50' W.—their farthest point. They surveyed the scene from a hill 1,500 feet in height, and then by forced marches regained the ship.

Geodetic measurements and other sledge and boat excursions, in which Ardincaple Inlet, Clavering Island, and Gael Hamkes Bay, were visited, filled up the time till July 18, when the ship was once more steered northwards, but was stopped once more by fixed ice, in the same latitude as in 1869. The hope of further discovery in that direction had to be abandoned, and the explorers reluctantly retraced their route. Arriving in sight of Cape Broer Ruys, they discovered that Bennet Island (so called) is in reality joined to the mainland. Then, rounding Cape Franklin, they entered a fjord, from which large icebergs were floating, and steamed up its calm waters for twenty-four hours, and saw it still stretching away into the distance. From the top of a hill, more than 7,000 feet high, they saw, in about 32° west longitude, a mountain range some 15,000 feet high, and had a grand prospect over the interior of Greenland. The extremity of the fjord was still too distant to be seen; so that, had circumstances permitted, they might have explored leagues more of the wonderful scenery. From the description, we may infer that Greenland resembles Norway in general character, and that this far-stretching fjord offers facilities for exploration of the interior, which perhaps cannot be found on any other part of the east or western coast.

On August 24 the Germania, having pushed through the land ice, regained the open sea in lat. 72° N., long. 14° W., when the long-complaining boiler having completely failed, the voyage was finished under sail. Off Heligoland signal was made for a pilot, but none answered. On September 11th they missed off Wangeroge the buoy that marks the entrance of the Weser; the lights, too, was nowhere to be seen. What did it all mean? A little later the vessel was boarded by the officers of a German guard-ship, and all was explained. Germany was at war.

As before stated, the scientific results of this expedition are important: a large collection of fossils, animal and vegetable, and systematic observations of physical phenomena have been brought home. But there is much yet to be done. It would have been a triumph had the Germania found a way round the north of Greenland, and come home down Baffin's Bay. Let the German mariners try again. The seamen of England and Holland have set them an example of what may be accomplished by perseverance and daring in the frozen latitudes around the Pole.

The Haystack was so named from its appearance by Capt. Sabine and Capt. Clavering, when they saw it from the hill-top of the Pendulums in 1823. They took it to be an island; but the sledge party above mentioned found it connected with the main, from which we may conclude that the land there advances more to the east than had been supposed. We remind our readers in conclusion, that while Capt. Sabine was making his Pendulum observations, Capt. Clavering sailed his ship, the Griper, up to 77° 30' N., and then tried to get through the ice, but found no practicable opening. The names Sabine and Clavering have been given to the Pendulum group by the German geographers.

SOCIETIES.

NUMISMATIC.—Oct. 20.—W. S. W. Vaux, President, in the chair.—C. Camerino, Esq. was elected a Member of the Society.—Mr. Evans

exhibited a British gold coin of the class inscribed VOCORIO, lately found near Portsmouth.—Mr. C. T. Newton read a paper by himself 'On a remarkable Stater of River-Gold, or Electrum, in the collection of the Bank of England, now deposited in the British Museum,' on the obverse of which was a stag feeding and a retrograde inscription in archaic Greek, reading apparently ΦΑΕΝΟΡΕΜΙΣΗΜΑ, and on the reverse an oblong sinking between two square sinkings. From the treatment of the stag and the forms of the letters Mr. Newton was disposed to assign it to the same period as the Branchidæ staters, viz. some time between B.C. 620 and 540. From a comparison of the obverse legend with the analogous ones, Γόρυγος τὸ σάγμα and Σείθου κόμμα, on Coins of Gortyna and of Seuthæ, King of Thrace, Mr. Newton was disposed to consider the first word, ΦΑΕΝΟΡ, as a genitive, and the final R to have been used instead of a Σ, as in the Æolic and Laconian dialects. He would, therefore, read the legend φαένος ἐμὶ σήμα, and as the stag is the usual type of coins struck at Ephesus, he was inclined to look upon the word "φαένω" as an epithet of the Ephesian Artemis, and to translate the inscription, "I am the coin of the Bright one," i.e. of Artemis; the coin being so marked to show that it was issued from the mint of the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus. This interesting stater is probably the only one in existence of so early a date, bearing an inscription.—Mr. Evans read a paper contributed by Dr. Aquilla Smith, 'On Money of Necessity, issued in Ireland in the Reign of King James the Second,' commonly called in England "Gun-money" and in Ireland "Brass-money."

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- TUES.** Anthropological, 8.—Report on Anthropological Papers read at the British Association, Mr. Wake: 'People of Marken,' Dr. Charnock: 'Condition of Blood Corpuscles in certain Races,' Dr. R. H. Bakewell: 'Indian Remains in Venezuela,' Mr. A. Ernst.
- Zoological, 8.—'Additions to the Society's Menagerie,' the Secretary: 'Contributions to the Knowledge of Pectinaria, a Genus of Rodent Mammalia, from North-East Africa,' Prof. W. Peters: 'Habits of the *Chrysops campicristis*,' Mr. C. Darwin.
- THURS.** Chemical, 8.—'Analysis of Cast Iron,' Mr. A. H. Elliott.
- Linnean, 8.—'Fertilization of Orchids and Asclepiades,'—'Solitary Bee, from South Africa,' Dr. Mansel Wode.
- FRI.** Philological, 8.—'Spelling Reform,' Messrs. A. J. Ellis and D. P. Fry.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

TUESDAY.

'Report of Committee on Electrical Standards,' 'On a New Absolute Electrometer,' by Sir W. THOMSON.

Mr. J. C. MAXWELL read a letter from Dr. Joule 'On a New Dip-Circle.'

'On the Immersion Method of Illumination of the Microscope,' by Dr. BARKER.

'On a Scale for Computing Humidity,' by Prof. J. D. EVERETT.—The scale in question is one recently invented by Mr. H. C. Russell, B.A., of Sydney Observatory. It enables the humidity to be found from the temperature of dry and wet bulb by inspection, on applying a graduated strip of paper, called the "Index," to the main portion of the scale. It is based on Glaisher's Tables. Prof. Everett pointed out that the plan on which the scale is constructed is applicable to the construction of a scale equivalent to any table of double entry, such a scale being more convenient than a table whenever interpolation is required.

'On 'Non-Tidal Variations of the Sea Level on the Coast of India,' by Mr. W. PARKES.—This paper described a graphical process for eliminating the changes of sea level due to semi-diurnal and diurnal undulations, thus exhibiting only those variations which are due to tides of long period or other causes. These levels, obtained at Kurra- chee, near the mouth of the Indus, for every day of the year from July, 1868, to June, 1869, were found to vary to the extent of 35 inches, or from 25 inches above the mean to 10 inches below. The averages for the calendar months respectively were first obtained. These do not indicate any sensible annual or semi-annual tide. The same figures were next grouped according to the lunations, so as to

obtain the mean height for every day of the moon's age. The figures showed that there was no sensible tide following these periods. Next, they were grouped according to the declination, so as to obtain the mean height on the days when the moon was crossing the equator from north to south, and on each successive day till she returned to the same position. From this it appeared that the water was slightly higher when the moon was in north than when she was in south declination; and a similar result was obtained by treating the values for the year 1867 in the same manner, but the difference ($1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches) was too small to justify any conclusion. They were then grouped according to the moon's distance. The means for 1868-9 showed a slight elevation when the moon was near Apogee and a depression when near Perigee, but this result was not confirmed for 1867. From these trials it was concluded that there were no sensible tides of long period due to solar or lunar influence, and that the causes of the variations must be sought for elsewhere. The range was too great to be attributed to atmospheric pressure; and the want of any persistent elevation during the south-west monsoon showed that they could not be attributed, directly at least, to local winds. An extraordinary rise took place in June, 1869, to the extent, when at the maximum, of 25 inches. The sea level was unusually high for about seven days, during which there was great heat and an unsettled appearance in the weather, but no definite atmospheric disturbance. A similar effect was observed at about the same period in 1868, but not in 1870.

'On Variation of Rainfall with Elevation of the Gauge,' by Mr. C. CHAMBERS.—It is well known that the quantities of rain received in gauges placed at different elevations above the ground diminish as the elevation of the gauge increases. Two distinct causes are suggested to explain this: (1) that damp air transferred by the agency of winds from a warm to a cold district finds the latter region colder, not in the upper strata of the atmosphere only, but also in the lower, and in cooling has its vapour condensed as well in the lower strata as in the higher. Consequently, a rain-gauge placed at any given elevation will catch rain amounting to the sum of the condensations of the strata above it, and therefore the lower a gauge is placed the greater will be the quantity of rain it receives. The second cause suggested supposes the particles of vapour suspended in the air to be susceptible of electric induction, and, consequently, to be electrically polarized by induction from the ground, which is known by observation to differ in electrical tension at all times from the atmosphere above it. This polarization of the particles of vapour gives rise to mutual attractions between them, and to their successive coalescence forming rain-drops, and the attractions being strongest near the ground, the coalescence will be there most rapid. Consequently, not only should more rain be caught by a gauge at a lower elevation than by one at a higher, but the rate of variation with height of the quantities received should be more rapid near the ground: and this is in accordance with observation. The second cause also serves to explain the greater fall of rain over forest-land than over similarly-situated even ground; and also, in part, the greater fall in mountainous districts than over neighbouring plains.

'On Musical Intervals,' by Mr. W. SPOTTISWOODE.

The Rev. R. HARLEY read a paper, 'Observations on Boole's "Laws of Thought,"' by the late Mr. R. L. ELLIS.—The writer said—It appears to be assumed in chap. iii. sec. 8, that in deriving one conception from another the mind always moves, so to speak, along the line of predicamentation, always passes from the genus to the species. No doubt everything stands in relation to something else, as the species to its genus, and, consequently, the symbolical language proposed is in extent perfectly general. But I venture to doubt whether it can express explicitly all the relations between ideas which really exist, all the threads of connexion which lead the mind from one to the other. The mind passes from idea to idea in accordance with

various principles of suggestion; and in correspondence with the different classes of such principles of suggestion we ought to recognize different branches of the theory of inference. I doubt whether logic and the science of quantity can in any way be put in antithesis to one another. From the notion of an apple we may proceed to that of two apples, and so on in a process of aggregation, which is the foundation of the science of discrete quantity. Or, again, from the notion of an apple we may proceed to that of a red apple, and this movement of the mind in *lined predicamentali* is the foundation of ordinary logic. But it is plain *a priori* that there are other principles of suggestions besides these two, and the following considerations lead me to think there are other exercises of the reasoning faculty than those included in the two sciences here referred to. First, certain inferences not included in the ordinary processes of conversion and syllogism, were recognized as exceptional cases by the old logicians. The only question is, whether we should be right in considering these cases as exceptions; and if they are so, to what they owe their existence. One instance is the *inversio relationis*, e. g. Noah is Shem's father, therefore Shem is Noah's son. Here we pass from the idea of Shem to that of his father, and *vice versa*. The movement of the mind is along a track distinct from that which it follows either in algebra or what we commonly call logic. The perception of the truth of the inference depends on a recognition of the correlation of the two ideas, father and son. Again, take a similar instance. Prince Albert sat at the Emperor's right hand, therefore the Emperor sat at Prince Albert's left hand. How shall we express such inferences symbolically? Let S be Shem, N Noah, f father, s son. $N = fS$; $Sf = I$. Eliminating f between these two equations we get $S = sN$. Nothing can be simpler than this; but the symbols s, f , are of a distinct nature from those employed in the 'Laws of Thought.' For fA does not denote a species of A , but an idea standing in a different relation to it. The distinction between these two kinds of symbols becomes more manifest when we reflect that f^2 is not identical with f , but denotes "father of father," or grandfather. I do not see how these cases of inversion of relation are to be dealt with symbolically without the introduction of such symbols. In the following examples I confine myself to the cases afforded by relationship and the succession of generations:—Let A, B, C denote three persons, s son, g grandson; then if B is A 's son, and C is B 's son, which we may express symbolically by the following equations: $B = sA, C = sB, s^2 = g$. Eliminating B and s , we get $C = gA$. It would be more accurate in these examples to introduce a symbol x or y , to indicate that B is only one of the possible sons of A , an individual ranged under the species sA . In the next example the word son is replaced by the more general term descendant, denoted by d . The equations will now be $B = xdA, C = ydB, d^2 = zd$, videlicet, a descendant not of the first generation. The result of eliminating B now is $C = ydxdA$, but by a principle about to be noticed $dx = x'd$, therefore $C = yx'zdA$, or C is included in the class of descendants of A . The principle just used forms one of the recognized examples of an inference not lying within the domain of Aristotelian logic. It was called "transitio ex recto in obliquum." Whately, though he says nothing of its nature, gives in his praxis of examples one depending upon it. A negro is a man, therefore he who kills a negro kills a man. Let this derived notion, killing, be denoted by f , which may serve to indicate a general functional dependence; then M, N denoting man and negro respectively, we have the following equations: $N = xM, fx = xf, \therefore fN = xfM$; or the killing of a negro is a kind of homicide. The evidence of the truth of the equation $fx = xf$ is the same as that in favour of the equation $xy = yx$, when x and y both belong to the kind of symbols used in the 'Laws of Thought.' He would not stop to inquire into the limitations which it may, perhaps, require. The truth of the equations $x^2 = x$, and $xy = yx$, appears to suffer another exception, in the case, that is, of adjectives of which the interpretation is functional

of the object to which they are applied. A small St. Bernard dog is not *simpliciter* a small dog; the word meaning that which is less than the medium size of the class of objects to which it is applied. Here neither $s^2 = s$ nor $sx = xs$. If we say that in order to save whole these equations we may employ a different symbol for every application of the adjective small, how can we express the meaning which is common to them all, and in virtue of which the word small exists as an element of language. Diffident as the author was with respect to all these remarks on a method in which there was so much to admire, he was yet more so with respect to the following. But it seems to him that we cannot say that $x(1-x) = 0$ expresses *proprio vigore*, that is, in virtue of antecedent conventions, what is called the principle of contradiction. In ordinary language we have words which independently of this principle express negation; we say red, not red, and the like; but in the 'Laws of Thought' there is no other means of expressing not red than by $1-x$, x denoting red. Now the interpretation of this symbol $1-x$ seems to the author to be given by the principle of contradiction, and he therefore should rather say that the equation $x(1-x) = 0$ is interpreted by that principle, than that it expresses it. In accordance with this view, the equation $x^2 = x$ would appear to be independent of the principle of contradiction.

'On a new Electro-Magnetic Anemometer, and the Mode of Using it in Registering the Velocity and Pressure of the Wind,' by Mr. J. J. HALL.—After describing the difficulties attending the use of the present forms of anemometrical apparatus, the author described the apparatus devised and exhibited by himself. The anemometer consists of two parts, viz. velocity apparatus and registering apparatus. The first, a set of Robinson's hemispherical cups, communicate their motion downwards into a brass box, where it is reduced in angular velocity, and causes a contact disc or commutator, in which two platinum contact-pins are fixed equidistant from one another, to revolve in 1-10th of a mile. An insulated metallic lever, having a platinum working face, stands on either side of the disc, so that upon the completion of every 1-500th of a mile one or other of the contact-pins comes in contact with the two levers, thus uniting them and completing the circuit. The levers are raised a few degrees, and then fall back to their normal position ready to be taken up by the next pin, and so on. The recording apparatus consists of a train of wheels and pinions working in a frame or between two brass plates, the arbors of which project through a dial-plate whereon the circles and figures are engraved and carry the hands. These wheels are driven by a weight attached to a line wound round a barrel, and a locking-pin disc—the pinion of which works in the first wheel—is released at every contact of the cup apparatus by an electro-magnet, which unlocks the pin-disc and allows the first hand to advance 1-500th of a mile on the graduated dial by a jump similar to the minute hand in remontoire clocks. By turning on a "strike-silent" stop, a hammer lever is brought into connexion with the escapement and strikes a bell at every contact. By this arrangement the observer has nothing to do but to notice the seconds hand of his watch or chronometer while he counts the number of times that the bell is struck, each of which corresponds to the 1-500th of a mile, and by a formula arranged and exhibited by Mr. Hall, who has also arranged a comprehensive series of tables for use with this instrument, the hourly velocity may be readily deduced. In noting velocities extending over long periods of time, the instrument is read in the same manner as the ordinary cup and dial anemometer, or as a gas-meter. By means of the formula before mentioned—although the unit of measurement by this instrument is 500ths—the observer may arrive at results as near the truth as if the instrument were capable of recording the 1,000th part of a mile, while the great advantage lies in the fact that the battery power is less called into action, from which we may infer its elemental duration will be considerably longer.

'On a Magnetic Paradox,' by Mr. S. A. VARLEY.—The author had termed the instrument a magnetic paradox because the phenomenon exhibited by it was the apparent repulsion of soft iron by a magnet.

'On an Improved Lantern for Lecture Demonstrations with the Electric Light,' by Mr. W. LADD.—In illustrating spectrum analysis, much inconvenience has been experienced in the use of two lanterns, or, where limited to one, in the time and trouble in shifting optical arrangements. The author had therefore devised a lantern, by which all the required demonstrations can be performed. The body of the lantern is of brass tube, 9 inches in diameter, in the centre of which is fixed the electric light. At two points in the tube, situated about 100° apart, are openings, to one of which is attached a flange, into which the various optical arrangements slide; the other opening has a sliding piece, carrying a second and similar flange; so that the various pieces of apparatus are mutually interchangeable. By pointing one of these openings direct on to a screw, the other will be in a proper position for a ray of light passing through two bisulphides of carbon prisms, to give the spectrum on the same screen. The lamp can, without being opened, be adjusted to keep the light absolutely central—a desideratum every one will admit who has had to use a microscope or polariscope with the electric light. Within the lantern is a small gas jet, to enable the operator readily to change the carbon-points. A revolving carbon-holder is also provided, carrying five separate carbons, and, by simply rotating, each is successively brought into action: thus, by once charging, several experiments can be performed with rapidity.

'Queries about Ether,' by Mr. C. BROOKE.

WEDNESDAY.

'On an Induction Coil specially arranged for Use in Spectrum Analysis,' by Mr. J. BROWNING.—When an induction coil is used for the purpose of burning metals, it is necessary to interpose one or more Leyden jars in the circuit. Such an arrangement, though efficient, is inconvenient. The glass jars are liable to fracture; are bulky, and require to be dry to perform well, and the wires connecting them with the coil are in the way, and liable to derangement. To obviate these difficulties the author constructed an apparatus, which consisted essentially of a flat mahogany box filled with plates of ebonite, which are coated on each side with tin-foil to within an inch of the edges. The contrivance generally used for holding the metals or containing the gas under examination is packed inside the lid of the box. When in use, this fits into a hollow screen on the top of the box. To set this apparatus in action it is only necessary to carry a fine wire from each of the terminals of the induction coil, and insert it in the connexions provided at each end of the box, as these are connected with the tin-foil with which the ebonite plates are coated.—Mr. SPORTSWOOD suggested, that there should be a contrivance added, by which a greater or lesser number of the coated plates may be brought into action at will. This arrangement is very useful, as it enables the temperature of the spark to be regulated. The simplest and best method of employing the coated ebonite plates, however, is to place them in the base of the induction coil, underneath the ordinary condenser, and connect them with the terminals. When thus arranged, the dense thick spark may be obtained from any substance placed between the terminals of the coil, or in any apparatus which may be attached to them, and a great economy of time is effected.

'On the Maximum Amount of Magnetic Power which can be developed by a given Galvanic Battery,' by Mr. H. HIGHTON.—The author's object was to show that by means of any galvanic battery whatever electro-magnets might be made capable of sustaining any amount of weight without limit. It was shown both by mathematical formulæ and experiment that this was the case, as also that a constant weight could be sustained, while the expenditure of zinc in the battery could be at the same time continually diminished without limit.—

In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that this was a mere power of sustaining weights, and not an energy such as could be applied to working an electro-magnetic engine; for that if the magnets were used to work an engine, the currents produced by the reaction would cause an increased consumption of zinc.

'On Certain Objections to the Dynamical Theory of Heat,' by Mr. W. COOK.

'On the Wave Theories of Light, Heat, Electricity,' &c., by Mr. H. HUDSON.

'On Faure's Battery,' by Mr. C. BECKER.

'On Two Spectra produced by Carbon at the same Temperature,' by Mr. W. M. WATTS.—In this paper the author gave an account of his attempt to ascertain whether the two totally different spectra of carbon depend on a difference of temperature. The No. I. spectrum is that given by olefant gas or carbonic oxide, and various other compounds of carbon, either when burnt in air or oxygen, or by means of the electric spark at ordinary pressures. The No. II. spectrum is produced only by the electric spark in a vacuum, and is given under such circumstances, either by olefant gas or carbonic oxide. The temperature of the flames producing the No. I. spectrum varies from below 2,000° C. to 10,000° C., whilst by inclosing vapour of sodium in the Geissler tube giving the No. II. spectrum, the author found that at first the line D. showed, which comes out below 2,000° C., and afterwards as the tube was heated, Na β , which indicates a temperature of about 2,000°, as it is produced in flames which just melt platinum; and finally Na γ , which does not appear till 3,000° C. During these changes the carbon No. II. spectrum remained unaltered; Dr. Watts concludes, therefore, that both spectra are equally producible by temperatures of between 2,000° and 3,000° C., and that the difference between them, whatever its cause, does not depend upon temperature.

SECTION B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

WEDNESDAY.

'How to Prevent Lead-Poisoning in Water,' by Mr. A. GORDON.—Various substitutes for lead piping have been tried, but all are more or less open to objection. The substitute recommended by the author was that invented by Mr. Haines, C.E. It consists of a leaden pipe with an internal pipe of block tin, both having been previously pressed together so as to form a homogeneous whole. By this process the piping retained all the flexibility of lead, while the inner tube of tin was strong and thick enough to prevent any access of water to the exterior leaden pipe.

'On Atmospheric Ozone,' by Dr. MOFFAT.—The results given in this paper were deduced from observations extending over a period of twenty years. By tables it was shown that the maximum of ozone takes place with the conditions of the equatorial current of the atmosphere, and that the minimum occurs with those of the polar current. The author stated that the quantity of ozone is greater in the night than in the day; that it varies with the season of the year, and that it is in maximum quantity with thunder-storms, the aurora, the zodiacal light, halos, hail, snow and sleet, when the readings of the barometer are decreasing, and that it is in minimum quantity with these phenomena when the readings of the barometer are increasing. He also stated that ozone was sometimes in maximum quantity and at others in minimum quantity with fog according to the meteorological process by which the fog is formed. Dr. Moffat named the supposed natural sources of atmospheric ozone; and he explained experiments he had performed, the results of which showed that ozone is not formed by the electrolytic action of the sunbeam upon vegetable essences, as stated by some authors, turpentine being an exception. The author views phosphorescence as the chief source of ozone; and tabulated results of observations on phosphorescence in connexion with atmospheric conditions extending over a period of eight years were exhibited, by which it appeared that periods of phosphorescence and ozone occur with the conditions of the equatorial current of the

atmosphere, and that periods of non-phosphorescence and no ozone take place with those of the polar current. Dr. Moffat had observations taken in the North Sea and on the North Atlantic; and results show that phosphorescence of the sea and the maximum quantity of ozone, and non-phosphorescence of the sea and the minimum of ozone take place under the above atmospheric conditions. Ozone, he said, is Nature's disinfectant; and when it is not available, it can be produced artificially. The action of phosphorescence upon moist air he considers the readiest and cheapest way of forming it. Practically, he considers ozone observations very important. Medico-meteorological observations show that ozone is always in minimum quantity during cholera epidemics, and that cholera disappears on the setting in of the ozoniferous current of the atmosphere. Observations in the North Sea have found ozone test-papers very useful in foretelling weather; and the results of observations taken during four passages across the North Atlantic show that phosphorescence of the ocean and atmospheric ozone occur together; and that when the sea is not phosphorescent ozone is at zero; and, as a rule, if the sea be non-phosphorescent, and if ozone be at zero, with an equatorial air-current, the ship has entered either a polar sea-current or the "ice-track," and icebergs are in near proximity.

'On the Marbles of Tyree,' by Mr. E. C. C. STANFORD.

'On Experiments on the Preservation of Stone,' by Mr. A. H. CHURCH.

'On Artificial Stone and certain Forms of Silica,' by the Rev. H. HIGHTON.—The author remarked that the foundation of all artificial stone-making was the solution of silica and its subsequent reprecipitation. There were three kinds of silica: 1, Quartz and quartz-sand, which would only combine with alkalis at a furnace heat; 2, Flint, which was soluble by long boiling under high steam pressure; and, 3, Opal, silica artificially made, and certain beds of soluble silica found in many parts of the world. The new kind of artificial stone, called the Victoria Stone, was made by forming blocks of concrete with hydraulic cement, steeping them in a solution of silica, with a quantity of soluble silica immersed in it. The operation of this process is as follows:—The lime of the cement extracts the silica from the solution; caustic soda is liberated, which dissolves a fresh portion of silica, and again conveys it to the lime in the concrete, which thus becomes filled throughout its pores with silica, the soda acting merely as a carrier of silica to the concrete, and being capable of being continuously used over and over again for ever. By this means, after a week's immersion, the concrete gains in strength from 50 to 120 per cent., and by a longer immersion becomes harder than any natural stone, with the exception of the hardest granites and primitive rocks; much harder than the Staffordshire blue bricks, and more than double the strength of Portland stone. As to cost, where there is facility of carriage for materials, as on the Thames, it can be made at a cost considerably less than that of York stone at the quarry. A part of the pavement in the Poultry was laid with it last January, where about 70,000 persons a day, or 2,000,000 a month, pass over it. The whole of the stone of the new warehouses, 27, St. Mary Axe, is made of this material, which, for many purposes, presents great advantages over any natural stone, and it has been used to a considerable extent not only in England but in India and other countries. A company is in course of formation for carrying out the manufacture on the banks of the Thames on a very large scale.

'On the Use of Solutions of Soluble Chlorides for Laying Dust in Thoroughfares,' by Mr. W. J. COOPER.

'Note on the Absorption of Hydrogen by Electro-Deposited Iron,' by Mr. W. C. ROBERTS.—The author reminded the Section of a paper read during the meeting of the British Association at Exeter, by Dr. Jacobi, of St. Petersburg, 'On the Electro Deposition of Iron,' specimens of which were submitted for inspection. Mr. Graham proved palladium occluded 900 times its volume of hydrogen, and Dr. Jacobi considered that the electro-deposition

of iron was attended by a similar absorption of hydrogen, although to a less degree. Mr. Roberts found by experiment that the iron contained at least 15.5 times its volume of hydrogen. The experiments were effected by distilling the iron in vacuo. Similar results were obtained by Leutz and Klein. Mr. Graham also proved that tubes of malleable iron when heated to redness allowed hydrogen to penetrate the walls. The experiments were then attended by unavoidable errors, but by employing a tube of electro-iron, deposited on a rod of wax, Mr. Roberts was enabled to confirm results obtained by Mr. Graham.

'On the Excretion of Phosphoric Acid in connexion with Atmospheric Conditions,' by Dr. MOFFAT.—The author had continued his observations during the last winter months, and the results corroborated those in his former paper. He concludes that the quantity of phosphoric acid formed in the system by the oxidation of the phosphorus in protein and phosphorated fat of the blood in the peripheral system and in the lungs, is determined by the pressure of the atmosphere. He showed by tables that when certain forms of disease, such as apoplexy, epilepsy, and sudden death, take place, there is a maximum quantity of phosphoric acid secreted; and as these diseases occur with decreasing readings of the barometer and on the approach of storms, he asks, can they be the result of increased oxidation of the phosphorus in the brain and nervous system caused by diminished atmospheric pressure?

'Contributions to Mineralogical Chemistry,' by Mr. A. H. CHURCH.

'On the Typical Hydro-Carbons from Marsh Gas to Anthracene, with the Oxidation of the latter into Anthraquinone and Alizarine,' by Dr. MAC VICAR.

'On the Chemical Composition of the Bones of General Paralytics,' by Mr. J. C. BROWN.

'On the Examination of Sea-Water on board H.M.S. Porcupine in July, 1870, for Dissolved Gases and for Varying Proportions of Chlorine,' by Mr. W. L. CARPENTER.

'On an Automatic Spectroscope,' by Mr. J. BROWNING.

SECTION C.—GEOLOGY.

WEDNESDAY.

'On the Diamonds of South Africa,' by Prof. TENNANT.

Prof. ANSTED said that at first there was considerable doubt in England whether the diamonds alleged to be found in South Africa were really found there, but the fact was now well established. It was a fact of considerable importance to South Africa, as already it had carried a large number of emigrants into the interior of the country.

'On Changes of Climate,' by Mr. R. A. PEACOCK.—The author expressed the opinion that these changes were due to rain and rivers, denudations, risings and sinkings of land, and the great range of temperature on the earth's surface. These would account for a future warm and afterwards for a cold period, and for a glacial and cool period in the past.

The Rev. R. B. BELCHER raised the question whether it is not possible to influence the weather by artificial means. He thought it was possible, and mentioned, in support of his view, the great hurricane, or cyclone, and the immense wave which swept both the French and the English coast immediately after the explosion and petroleum fire in the Bordeaux harbour. He also stated that the explosion on the Mersey of the Lotty Sleigh was heard where he lived, a hundred miles from the scene of the explosion. It was followed by an immense black cloud and very heavy rain. Then, directly after the fighting commenced between the French and Prussians the long drought which preceded it was broken up, and all wars were for the most part carried on in rain and mud. He thought, therefore, rain could be produced by artificial means.—The subject was not followed up by any other speaker.

'Sur le terrain Silurien du centre de la Belgique,' by Prof. C. MALAISE.—The author pointed out

that the identifications with regard to the Silurian and Cambrian rocks in Belgium were not correct.

'On Fossils from the Railway Section at Huyton,' by Mr. W. CARRUTHERS.—The author spoke of the collection made by Mr. Higgins as especially valuable, because a comparatively limited number of species occur, and it is, consequently, possible to co-relate the different parts of the same plant. He illustrated the genus *Lepidodendron* from the specimens found at Huyton, describing the foliage, stems, and their remarkable fruits. The genus *Sigillaria* was demonstrated from two species represented at Huyton.

'On an Orthopterous Insect,' by Mr. C. SMITH.

'Notes on a Merionethshire Gold Quartz Crystal, and some Gold recently found in the River Mawddack,' by Mr. T. A. READWIN.

SECTION D.—BIOLOGY.

WEDNESDAY.

Zoology and Botany.

'On the Natural History of Hainan,' by Mr. R. SWINHOE.—The northern portion of Hainan, together with broad tracts on its north-western and south-western sides, are flat, or gently undulating, with only a few eminences, the soil being composed of marine deposits, and poor in quality. On its north-western coast, and notably at Heongfoo, Haysuy and Hungpe harbours, as also in the island of Navchoo, there is abundant evidence of extinct volcanic action in the shape of trap-tuff masses strewn on the beach. This porous and vesicular rock is the chief stone used for building purposes in most parts of the island. "Saddle Hill" on the western promontory of Hoshow harbour has been found to be an extinct volcano; and an eminence in the plain to the east of the capital bears every appearance of being another; and in our circumnavigating expedition we noticed others of similar character on the east and west coasts. The marine nature of the soil is attested by the fact of oyster and other shell beds cropping out along the banks of the main river, and by the occurrence of large masses of coral in the stream, twelve or fifteen miles from its mouth. The southern portion of the island consists of jungle-covered mountains, rising to an altitude of perhaps 7,000 feet, with rich valleys between them. At their northern extremity granite was noticed, and in the south, where they extend to the coast, the rock appeared also to be granitic. No coal has been discovered in these mountains, but they are said to be rich in minerals. In the Shih-luh-shan (stone-green hills), approachable from the Hoi-too harbour, and about twenty-six miles from the coast, copper in the form of a green carbonate is found in quantity, and is exported to Canton and used for painting porcelain. In the same neighbourhood both lead and iron are said to occur, the former containing ten to fifteen per cent. of silver. The lead-mines were taken possession of by the Government, but they did not succeed in working them to profit. The older writers on China speak of gold as being the chief article of barter between the independent tribes and the Chinese, but the author could not learn of its occurrence now. The north-easterly portion of the island is exposed to the influence of the winter monsoon, and enjoys cool weather during the China cold season, while the mountains of the interior debar the south from the refreshing north-easters and render it entirely tropical, and, according to the Chinese, very pestilential. The colonists in the south suffer greatly from a disease they call "changhe," which produces swellings of the limbs and belly, and soon causes the system to succumb. They attribute it to the water of the hills, and it is said the older settlers take the precaution to boil in the morning what water they require for consumption during the day. Hainan lies in the direction usually taken by typhoons, and is visited each year by many of those devastating whirlwinds. The visitor from China is specially struck with the abundance of the cocoa-nut tree (a tree not found in the latitude of Canton), which meets the eye on all points of the island coast. In spite of the winter monsoon it flourishes best in the north-east corner of Hainan, in the district of Wenchang.

Further in the interior, as the ground rises, the pine (*Pinus Sinensis*) appears, and in some spots clumps of pine and topes of cocoa-nut growing side by side. The cocoa-nut also was found growing on the opposite shore of the Linchow peninsula, and on the small island of Navchoo, off the right of the peninsula, in lat. 20° 45'. The cocoa-nut is not known in Formosa, excepting in one spot at the foot of the mountains, about twenty miles from the south-west coast, where a few trees flourish, which there is good reason to believe were introduced by the Dutch. The cocoa was everywhere largely cultivated, as it is also in South China and Formosa. Fine banyans shaded the villages, growing to a large size; three species were observed. On the high road to the capital, and about the city itself, two peculiar trees presented themselves: the one with black pods, 10 inches long, hanging downwards all over it; the other with long scimitar-shaped pods, 20 inches long, covered with an ochreous woolly down. Both these were new to the author who brought home specimens of the pods, and submitted them to Prof. Bennett, of the British Museum, who pronounces the first an *Asclepiadeus* tree of an unknown species, and the latter, a *Spathodea*, nearly related to *Spathodea stipulata*. Other village trees not often seen in China were the jark, the bread-fruit, and the tamarind. In the mountain forests the *Liquidambar formosana*, Hainan, was the commonest tree, associated with noble fig-trees of great variety and beauty. Palms also were abundant; on the higher ground the cocoa-nut giving place to fan-palms, caryota, phonia, &c. The undergrowth was traversed in all directions by ratans and other tangles innumerable, so as entirely to impede passage through. The finest woods for fragrance and for sculpture are procured from the mountains of Hainan; and Du Halde, in his 'Histoire de la Chine,' states that the Emperor Kunding had some carried to Peking at immense cost, to decorate a palace he was building for his sepulture. The most precious of these woods is the Hwa-le, named by Europeans rose or violet-wood on account of its odour, which the Chinese procure by barter.

'On the Staperaythr Whale of the Icelanders,' by Mr. H. BIRD.

'On the Abnormal Growth of Ferns,' by Mr. T. M. HALL.

'Note on the Affinities of the Sponges to the Corals,' by Mr. W. S. KENT.

'On the Effects of the Pollution of Rivers on the Supply of Fish,' by Sir J. ALEXANDER.

'A Statement in Reply to the Two Objections of Prof. Huxley relative to Certain Experiments,' by Dr. BASTIAN.—Prof. Huxley, in his inaugural address, referring to these experiments, said the first reply which suggested itself was the probability that there must be some error about them, because they were performed every day on an enormous scale with quite contrary results—meat, fruits, and vegetables, the very materials of the most fermentable and putrescible infusions, being preserved to the extent of thousands of tons every year by a method which was a mere application of Spallanzani's experiment. Did the professor, Dr. Bastian asked, presume that these preserved meats were free from living organisms? The method of preserving meat practised at Mr. McCall's establishment was, that the cans of meat were placed in a bath containing a solution of chloride of calcium capable of being heated to 264° Fahrenheit before it boiled, and they were submitted for more than an hour and a half to a heat of 230° Fahrenheit, or 110° Centigrade, a temperature which Pasteur always considered sufficient to destroy any pre-existing life which might be in solution. After the tins were hermetically sealed the temperature was rapidly raised to 260° Fahrenheit (126° Centigrade), and this temperature was maintained for half an hour. Mr. McCall assured him that there was a certain definite percentage of failures in cases where it was impossible to find any defect whatever in the tin. Wishing to ascertain the microscopic condition of meats sold as perfectly good, he procured three tins, respectively, salmon, lobster, and Julien's soup. He submitted their contents to microscopic examina-

tion, and found in each a very great number of the minute living things which were met with in solutions, and which he supposed to be capable of coming into existence *de novo*. These living things consisted of minute figure-of-eight particles, bacteria-like bodies, and filaments. As far as the filaments were concerned, they made no movement, but there was no reason to suppose they were dead. With regard to the movements exhibited by the figure-of-eight particles, there were certain Brownian movements supposed to be due to certain physical conditions of the fluid itself, and there were other movements which were unmistakably vital, and between these two extremes there were any number of conditions. It was quite possible to meet with Bacteria which were really living, but which, nevertheless, showed only languid movements. It was impossible to draw any sharp line of demarcation. They could not say positively when these slow movements existed that the thing was living, but, on the other hand, they had no positive right to infer that they were not living. Then Prof. Huxley said—"If, in the present state of science, the alternative is offered to us, either germs can stand a greater heat than has been supposed, or the molecules of dead matter, for no valid or intelligible reason that is assigned, are able to re-arrange themselves into living bodies, exactly such as can be demonstrated to be frequently produced in another way, I cannot understand how choice can be, even for a moment, doubtful." By this, he presumed, Prof. Huxley meant that if these alternatives were put, he would decidedly elect to believe that the germs could stand the heat to which they had been subjected, rather than that it was possible for the living things to have been originated *de novo*. Now, his own experiments, at all events, were so simple in their nature, that it did not seem to him that there was very much room for the possibilities of error suggested by the Professor. Certain flasks containing solutions were taken—in some cases of organic and in others of inorganic matter; they were hermetically sealed by Prof. Frankland; and then they were exposed to a temperature of from 146 to 153° Centigrade. He supposed that this amount of heat would destroy the germs if they were in the flasks, and that the finding of living things in the solutions afterwards would be evidence that they were produced *de novo*. He examined the flasks day after day with the greatest care, and saw nothing until the expiration of about three weeks, when certain cloud-like flocculi appeared in the solution, and after about three weeks more there appeared on one of the flocculi a minute white speck, which, though small, increased in size day by day; and when the flask was opened at the expiration of sixty-five days, the whole white mass was found to consist of fungus spores and filaments. In order to ascertain the possible effect of such a heat as the solution had been submitted to on fungus filaments, he took certain fungus filaments and spores from an organic infusion and submitted them to the same test, under precisely the same conditions; and when he examined that fungus mass afterwards, he found that it was completely dissolved. There was scarcely a perfect and entire fungus filament to be seen; there was not an entire spore. In the face of that evidence, he did think it was very hard that it should be maintained that the fungus he found in the first instance was a fungus which had existed in the solution before. It had never yet been shown that any living thing could continue to live after it had been exposed to a temperature of 11° Centigrade; and it was because he had found living things in infusions which had been submitted to a greater heat that the evidence seemed to him at present—and that was all he said—to be decidedly in favour of the view that the living things he found in those solutions had been evolved *de novo*.

Prof. TYNDALL said Dr. Bastian's experiments—conscientiously, earnestly, and laboriously conducted as they had been—had not produced the slightest effect on his views. Dr. Bastian had raised further barriers, obstacles, and objections which could not be met by any argument that could be brought before that meeting. They must

be met by a strict scrutiny of his experiments—by going over the same ground; and he would invoke Dr. Bastian himself, in the interest of the subject, to repeat his experiments, multiply them, and seek for negative causes.

Anatomy and Physiology.

'On the Intimate Structure of the Human Lung,' by Dr. WATERS.

'On Albumen and its Combination with Oxygen as the Source of the Development of Fibrine and Gelatine,' by Dr. J. GOODMAN.

'Remarks on Variation of Colouring in Animals,' by Dr. GRIERSON.

'On *Rhinodon typicus*,' 'On the Mortimer Ship-Aquarium,' and 'Exhibition of a Remarkable Hinged Fish Jaw, and of a young Lainantin,' by Mr. T. J. MOORE.

'On an Ebalia new to the British List,' by Mr. C. W. PEACH.

SECTION F.—ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS.

WEDNESDAY.

'On Middle-Class Schools as they are, and as they ought to be,' by Mr. C. H. W. BIGGS.—The argument was not that the supply of middle-class schools was too limited, but that the character of the education given therein was deficient. This arose mainly from the fact that the private schools were, as a rule, so small that the proprietors could not afford to secure efficient masters; and there was no guarantee to the public, either that the conductors were efficient, or that the premises were applicable for the purposes of a school. The present system of examinations was also unsatisfactory, and favoured the pernicious system of cramming, by which the majority of the boys suffered, to the advantage of the clever few. An improved system of examination conducted by competent persons in the schools themselves, and by *viva voce* as well as written questions appeared to Mr. Biggs to be the best and most available remedy.

'On Local Taxation,' by Mr. O. WILLIAMS.—He considered the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee did not go far enough, and argued that any reform should be made on a broad view, and embrace a much larger area than at present. He suggested also that the same basis on which the property and income taxes were levied should be applied to local taxation, and local taxes should be collected by the same machinery, and those local taxes should be consolidated, and collected in one item.

'Proposition for a Census of Local Names,' by Mr. HYDE CLARKE, F.S.S.—The paper proposed that the names of all persons, places, hills, and rivers in the United Kingdom should be enumerated in connexion with the next Census.

'Remarks on Railway Accounts, A.D. 1868, with some Suggestions for Railway Reform,' by Mr. J. PATTERSON.—The author complained of the great delay which had taken place in the furnishing of the accounts demanded from the railway companies by Parliament. He analyzed the profits arising from passenger traffic, and advocated a reduction of fares to a penny per mile first class, three farthings second class, and a halfpenny third class. He condemned excursion trains, which so seriously imperilled life, the system of return tickets, which was simply a device for keeping up excessive charges; and free passes. These calculations were based on a speed of 30 miles an hour. Greater speed should be paid for. He also condemned the principle of allowing luggage to go free of charge. In regard to the goods traffic, he stated that the two great companies which held the bulk of the Liverpool traffic in their hands carried 22½ per cent. of the whole goods and minerals of the kingdom for 25½ per cent. of the distance, and charged for so doing 29½ per cent. These charges therefore pressed with great severity on Liverpool trade. He quoted examples, and examined the arguments in favour of the power of maintaining these high charges, contending that they were all untenable. The chief argument was that, whilst 425,000,000 had been expended on railways, their earnings were only 18,000,000. He contended that the average earn-

ings of railways was not less than 4½ per cent., and that they might be largely increased if the railway companies would adopt a just and equitable system for all parts of the country.

'On Baths and Wash-houses,' by Mr. J. PARRY.—The paper gave details in respect to Liverpool, and concluded with a review of the value to the community of the institutions, showing their salutary influence on the physical and moral condition of society, and urging that more attention should be bestowed upon these important sanitary provisions, in consideration of their benefit to the health of mind and body.

'On the Decline of Small Farmers in Yorkshire and Lancashire, the Cause and Effect,' by Mr. J. W. ELLIS.—The author said that the decline, which admittedly existed, was due to three causes—want of capital, high rents, and dear labour. The whole difficulty arose from the competition of the manufacturers, for a labourer in these districts was better off than a middle-class farmer in some other districts.—Mr. M'KNIGHT said that the destruction of small farms had been going on in all parts of the kingdom, and he contended that that was very wrong.

'On the Compulsory Conversion of Substantial Leasehold in Towns into Freehold,' by Dr. DE MESCHIN.—He submitted that such a system would have a most beneficial effect on the architecture and general appearance of our towns, as well as on their rapid extension. He thought that a residence of a fixed number of years in a house should entitle him to secure on equitable terms a freehold in the premises. This would ensure far more independent and trustworthy constituents.

SECTION G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

TUESDAY.

Adjourned Discussion on the Martini Rifle.

'On the History of the Shell that Won the Battle of Sedan,' by Mr. W. HOPE, V.C.

'On the Submarine Ram and Gun,' by Mr. M. SCOTT.

'On the Machinery and Working of Submarine Guns,' by Mr. M. SCOTT.

'On a New System of Testing the Quality of the Malleable Metals and Alloys, with experimental illustrations,' by Mr. GUSTAV BISCHOFF.

Prof. W. J. MACQUORN RANKINE read the Report of the Committee 'On the Stability, Propulsion and Sea-going Qualities of Ships.'—The Report stated that certain experiments under the superintendence of Mr. Froude were being carried out, and that until these were completed the Committee was not in a condition to make a definite report.

'On the Ships of War of Moderate Dimensions,' by Mr. M. SCOTT.

At the conclusion of the reading of the foregoing Report and this paper, some discussion arose as to the loss of the turret steam-ship, Captain, in which Mr. E. J. REED, late Chief Constructor of the Navy, after being called upon by the PRESIDENT, said that the only inducement he had to make any remarks on so painful a subject was, that there was a manifest tendency on the part of the press to account for the calamity by the accident of the moment rather than by the condition of the vessel herself; and that if any mistake should be made on that point there would be the consequence of future disaster. His conviction was, that the loss occurred from preventable causes, and this was his only justification for speaking at all on the present occasion. It was the old feud, the one real feud, between the naval architects and the advocates of the turret system. The former maintained that a high side is necessary in a rigged sailing ship; the latter maintained, that if they put their guns in turrets, they can construct low-sided ships—in fact, ships with no sides at all—after a certain amount of inclination is given. Every sea Lord concurred with him that twelve or fourteen feet of side was an absolute necessity for sea-going service in a large frigate. The Captain was not so constructed, and it was fair to state she was built uncontrolled and unfettered by the advisers of the Admiralty. Mr. Reed then referred to a paper read by him before the Institute of Naval Architects in April, 1868, and

to a work published by him two years since, in which he expressed these views: the question of high or low sides was one which involved the application of a well-known principle of science to ship-building. The Captain was designed for a freeboard, a side of eight and a half feet, but she went to sea with two feet less.—Mr. Reed gave the following explanation as to how the Captain was lost. Supposing an ordinary ship is floating in still water, at rest, and with a proper amount of stability, there are two forces acting upon her—the force of gravity, the whole weight of the ship acting downwards, and the buoyancy of the water acting upwards through the self-same point, to a point at a higher position. Supposing the ship to be inclined by the force of the wind, the centre of gravity, being the centre of the ship's weight, is, of course, not altered in position in the ship, but its action remains vertical, but not through the same point as before. In inclining the ship, and immersing the portion not in the water before, and emerging the portion that was immersed before, the centre of buoyancy will take up a new position, no longer through the centre of gravity. The effect of the force of buoyancy obviously is to restore the ship to her upright position. The more you increase the inclination to leeward the more you lengthen the lever between the force of buoyancy and the force of gravity, between the upward and downward tendency; and as the weight of the ship is constant, and the buoyancy is nearly constant, we may construct a scale of stability, the curve of stability increasing with the continued immersion of the ship. The restorative power of the ship to return to the upright is dependent upon the buoyancy and the length of this lever. Suppose the sides of the ship cut away—what happens? All the time you are putting the side of the ship into the water by inclination, her stability may go on increasing, so long as her sides are not completely immersed; but the moment the edge of the deck enters the sea the rate of increase of stability is less, and after the sea has encroached a short distance along the deck the stability has reached a maximum, and does not continue to increase—nay, it commences to decrease—it is a fatal reduction, and at an angle of 40 deg. the ship would as soon go over as stand up, for there is no restorative power in her. This is what probably happened. Assume that an increase of wind came on. What is the effect upon a ship with upright sides, and upon one with no sides at all? The Monarch, with her lofty sides, fourteen feet, possesses a reserve of stability for going over to extreme angles. But what does the Captain possess? Just the measure of the surplus stability which she possesses, and that diminishing rapidly till it passed the zero, and actually became an upsetting force. In rolling, too, one ship has a store of stability on which to rely, the other has nothing on which she can draw, but must capsize. Mr. Reed did not intend to convey the idea that no more turret ships must be built, but that they must not be built with a low freeboard. Possibly the sides of the Monarch, fourteen feet, might be needlessly high, but it was a certainty that those of the Captain, even had they been as high as originally designed, 8½ feet, were too low, and they were actually lower than this by two feet. He hoped that the true lesson would be learnt from this catastrophe, that the ship did not go down from the perils of the sea, but from neglect of those scientific principles which admit of no dispute. The Captain was lost because she had a great spread of canvas and a low freeboard.—After paying a merited tribute of praise both to Capt. Cowper Coles and Capt. Burgoyne, he concluded by saying, "We must learn this lesson from the loss of the Captain, that if we value the lives of our people or the property of the country, or our national security, it does not matter whether you are a minister, an admiral, or a captain, you must not indulge in idle dreams and delusions on scientific questions, but must bring your proud head down to the altar of Science, and do your homage there."

'On an Oblique Propeller,' by Prof. O. REYNOLDS.

'On Efficiency of Furnaces and Mechanical Firing,' by Mr. G. F. DEACON.

'On Hydraulic Machinery for Steering Heavy Steam Engines, &c.,' by Mr. A. B. BROWN.

'On Frictional Screw Motions,' by Mr. G. LAUDER.

'On Certain Economical Improvements in obtaining Power,' by Mr. R. EATON.

'On the North China and Japan Submarine Cables,' by Mr. W. HOOPER.

'On Street Management,' by Mr. F. WILSON.

Science Gossip.

THE Council of the Institution of Naval Architects have prepared a list of subjects as questions on which they will be glad to receive communications for the Annual General Meeting in March, 1871: all such communications should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Institution not later than the 1st of March, 1871. Among the subjects are, the armament of ships of war,—the construction of vessels for coast defence,—torpedoes,—modern practice in ocean steam navigation,—methods for the proper strengthening of ships of extreme proportions,—on the steering of ships and on steering apparatus,—and on the correction of compasses in iron ships.

THE Scientific Societies are adopting the postage cards and the halfpenny envelopes for cards of meetings. The saving on posting the quarterly and other Journals to Fellows and Members is considerable, and will form a practical addition to the funds for scientific purposes. Many small Societies will save fifteen and twenty pounds a year out of their scant revenues, and so in proportion; one Society realizing about 250*l.*, and may profit also in obtaining exchange publications with greater facility.

LAST week an earthquake shock, which lasted forty seconds, was felt from Quebec to New York, and from Massachusetts to Michigan and some of the Western States. The vibratory movement was distinctly felt, and many buildings were damaged. In this we have further evidence in support of Prof. Phillips's statement that the earth is now in a period of unusual quaking and disturbance.

COMMANDER ASHE, Director of the Observatory at Quebec, has published a thin folio volume, entitled 'The Proceedings of the Canadian Eclipse Party, 1869,' in which an account is given of the journey of the party to Iowa, where they built a temporary observatory near Jefferson City, and got good observations of the eclipse. The narrative is illustrated by photographs, one of which represents the observatory and surrounding landscape; another shows the interior, with the instruments "clear for action"; in two others, and in a coloured lithograph, details of the observed phenomena, including the red prominences, are given. We mentioned the general results some months ago, in a notice of what astronomers in the United States had done on the occasion. Those who want further details will find them in the book by Commander Ashe; but intermingled with touches of funny writing, which are sadly out of place in a scientific report. If Commander Ashe is wise he will avoid the like in future.

FINE ARTS

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Monastery,' 'Triumph of Christianity,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' at the New Gallery.—OPEN from Ten till Six. Gas at dusk.—Admission, 1*d.*

The Fourth Winter EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES in OIL at the DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, will OPEN to the PUBLIC on MONDAY, 29th inst. GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

GUILDHALL LIBRARY.

ON Thursday, the 27th inst., the foundation stone of the New Library and Museum of the Corporation of London was laid by Dr. W. Sedgwick Saunders. According to the design, the building will consist of a principal library, having a nave and aisles 104 feet long, 65 feet wide, and 50 feet

high, with an open oak roof supported by fourteen clustered columns. On the eastern side will be the committee-room, 32 feet by 20; and at the southern end, a public reading-room, 51 feet by 25, and 34 high, with lavatories, &c. The ground floor will be devoted to the Museum, the principal room being 83 feet by 65, and 20 feet high, the smaller 30 feet by 20. The entrance porch from Basinghall Street will lead into a spacious hall, and thence up a flight of stairs to the Library; the general entrance will be from the porch of the Guildhall, along a colonnade to the Library. The large window at the northern end of the Library will be filled with stained glass, and the bookcases will be of oak. The elevation will be built in Kentish rag stone, with Bath stone dressing, and the interior Bath stone, with wainscot linings, and the floor of the Library will be of parquet. Owing to the formation of the plot of land, it has been necessary to arrange the plan of the building in three divisions, or blocks, of varying lengths. This arrangement will produce an irregular elevation. The porch and staircase, with its bay window and gable, and the space between the Museum windows, will be decorated with three niches for statues; above the committee-room will be seen the clerestory, with its row of windows. Space is provided for 100,000 volumes: the number of volumes that the Corporation at present possesses is 30,000.

Fine-Art Gossip.

IT is unfortunate that to-day (Saturday) is appointed for the private views of not fewer than three Exhibitions, all of which open to the public on Monday next. These gatherings are the Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures, in Oil, at the Dudley Gallery, Piccadilly; the Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures, in the French Gallery, Pall Mall; and an Exhibition of Water-Colour Drawings which have been assembled in the Gallery of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, Pall Mall. The last has a charitable object, the benefiting an Hospital for Consumption erected at Ventnor.

MR. HOLMAN HUNT, who is still in Jerusalem, has made good progress with the picture which has for some time past occupied his attention. His health is re-established. He will probably visit England for a short time in a few months.

THE Catalogue of the works of Mr. George Cruikshank, the preparation of which we mentioned some time since, is nearly ready for publication. It will be illustrated by many original etchings by the artist from copper and steel plates, also by wood-blocks and fac-similes, and comprise descriptions of many thousands of works, including etchings, glyphographs, lithographs, and woodcuts; likewise a list of books which have been illustrated by the artist. This Catalogue has been prepared by Mr. G. W. Reid, of the British Museum.

WE have several active bodies performing with various degrees of success the duties of an edile; we have, certainly, abundance of taxation taking effect in modes which are sufficiently burdensome to induce many to look forward to the formation of a "Ratepayers' Protection Society" powerful enough to moderate that grasp on their pockets which does not seem likely to relax, unless defensive measures are adopted. The enormous and ever-increasing demands on residents in the metropolis have, it is undeniable, resulted in many respects in gain to those who pay, and in a great many absurd and vexatious restrictions and discomforts, as well as occasional neglect to furnish comfort and conveniences, when they may be given at a small cost. Look at Trafalgar Square, for example: this is decidedly the least unfortunate of our open spaces, but there is baldness and discomfort about it which are discreditable. The fountains are examples of pitiful waste of decorative means and cost; a little Art would make noble ornaments with the body of water which is now stupidly employed. No one can sit down in Trafalgar Square, unless it be on the edges of the basins and at the risk of tumbling in: why not introduce benches, of stone, iron or wood? Why not add masses of verdure to

the half-dozen oranges in tubs which have appeared? On Thames Way, one of these wants is being supplied by the planting of trees; but although the Embankments, north and south, afford noble vistas and grand views, the largest and most varied in London, there is not a seat to be had. A blunder has been made in planting behind St. George's Hospital a series of poplars: these unfortunate trees have actually been invited to grow in *brick-rubish*!

WITH reference to the design for the statue of Lord Holland, a cast of which will shortly be placed in Kensington, described by us a few weeks since (*Athen.* No. 2241), and then ascribed wholly to Mr. Watts, we have that artist's authority for associating his name with that of Mr. Boehm in the preparation of the work. Mr. Watts's ability as a sculptor, no less than as a painter, is sufficiently recognized and proved to enable us to state his wish on this point without fear of being misunderstood. For our own part, distinct from all considerations of his great success in sculpture, we were, on seeing the model of the statue, impressed by its similarity in design and manner to the artist's paintings. Mr. Boehm's ability is such that he will lose nothing by the association which is thus proposed.

A LARGE, but not costly, collection of Chinese coins has been offered to the India Museum. It includes several specimens of great reputed antiquity, as described in the Chinese works on Numismatics. Some are of ancient date, but the claim of those of 4,000 years old is doubtful, as they bear characters. Some of the round coins with square impress are of great interest, as they may lead to evidence of common origin or influence on the western coinage. It is very doubtful whether coined money is not of older date than that assigned to it in the Mediterranean regions.

THE valuable Art Library belonging to the late Dr. Waagen, of Berlin, will be sold by auction, at Leipzig, on the 14th of November next, by Herr Weigel. Catalogues are to be had of foreign book-sellers in London.

MUSIC

BEETHOVEN CELEBRATIONS.

As the 17th of December next will fall on a Saturday, it is probable that the Crystal Palace will have the monopoly of doing honour to Beethoven for the centenary of his birth; and the programme, no doubt, will present attractions on a larger scale than those of the ordinary Saturday Afternoon Concerts. The Sacred Harmonic Society has issued as yet no official announcement of the scheme to be made up from the works of the Musician of Bonn; but it is understood that his only Oratorio, 'The Mount of Olives,' will be performed, preceded by the Mass in c. Another Association, which may fairly assume the attributes of an institution, is also in the field to give a series of Beethoven Concerts; these, in St. James's Hall, under the management of the Director of the Monday Popular Concerts, have a marked interest, as the chamber compositions of the master mind are to occupy a prominent position in the programmes before Christmas. The trios for string will all be done; selections will be made from the quartets, and as many of the thirty-five pianoforte Sonatas as possible. It may be presumed that the selection will be strengthened by the execution of some of the duets for pianoforte and violin or violoncello, by some of the quintets (stringed), or the one in E flat for piano and wind; the grand septet, &c. There is a fine field for the appreciation of Beethoven, even when he is not wielding all the resources of a full orchestra. His vocal music might also be judiciously examined, and some pieces often heard in Germany, but never given here, could be imported; the run has been too much on a few numbers out of the composer's vast catalogue. It should be the aim of selectors not to follow the beaten track, but to extend the knowledge of Beethoven's compositions; the rich mine has not been exhausted here, at all events. The fourth Symphony, the exhilarating

one in B flat, was keenly relished by the appreciative auditory assembled at the Sydenham Palace on the 22nd inst.; its piquant points, its unexpected episodes, its almost unceasing gaiety were quite enlivening. The fanciful German critics, who insist that the last movement is a series of repartees and epigrams exchanged between the stringed and wind instruments, can scarcely be accused of exaggeration; they might have added, indeed, that even the drum plays a part in the conversation by no means insignificant, and Herr Manns has the advantage of the services of a percussion player who exhibits discretion with tact. The all-subduing tenderness of the *adagio* was delicately handled by the player. Honourable mention is due to the wind-instrument performers for their skill in the trio of the *menuetto*. The finale was sustained with amazing spirit and precision. Altogether this was by far the finest performance of the series of Symphonies yet heard; the conductor aimed at something more than dry finish in the details; there was vivid colouring as well. Miss Agnes Zimmerman's reading of the Pianoforte Concerto in c minor, Op. 37, was intellectual throughout; and there was no lack of sentiment in the *largo*, but, in the *rondo*, more muscular manipulation would have been in stricter accordance with its rollicking gaiety. Miss Zimmerman, who is an excellent musician, availed herself of the right accorded by the composer, to players of his Concertos, to make their own cadences. Soloists, whether singers or instrumentalists, will exercise this privilege, however it may be anathematized. The accompaniments were not so well done as they ought to have been. The 'Ruy Blas' overture, on the other hand, was vigorously and superbly executed. This orchestral work by Mendelssohn, if not his best prelude, has become a great favourite; but the title is a misnomer, for it is in no way suggestive of Victor Hugo's play, which the composer considered "beneath contempt,"—to cite his words; the Overture was really written for a charitable purpose only, and was written in a couple of days' time, to prove that he could compose promptly. Gounod's pleasant pastoral Overture to 'Mireille' was the opening piece of the programme; it is curious to recognize in this pretty prelude to a charming idyll the subject of the old English morris dance, which, by the way, may be seen and heard even in very obscure parts of Spain. The *début* of a vocalist, Irish by birth, who has been singing in Italy and America under the name of Mdle. Corani, will serve to introduce here a powerful soprano voice of the Tietjens *timbre*, which may be turned to good account. Her declamatory powers were tested in Selika's 'Air du Sommeil,' from Meyerbeer's 'Africaine,' and her florid execution was tried in Verdi's bolero from 'The Sicilian Vespers,' a bolero that is thoroughly Spanish. The style of Mdle. Corani must be modified; her phrasing is too spasmodic, and she will have to get rid of the "*criard*" style in which she has been possibly tempted to indulge on the stage, under the mistaken notion that it is dramatic energy. Signor Foli sang Handel's stately air for the bass from 'Ezio,' and Schumann's 'Two Grenadiers,' the "*Marseillaise*" in the latter giving rise to a manifestation which, to say the least, was indiscreet. It is rather perilous to sing these war songs of France and Germany in large mixed gatherings at the Crystal Palace.

'ST. PETER' AND M. BENEDICT.

2, Manchester Square, Oct. 20, 1870.

IN answer to two communications, signed "H. F. Chorley," recently published in the *Athenæum*, I beg to submit a simple statement of facts.

Nearly thirteen years ago Mr. Chorley expressed to me his surprise that, as conductor of the Norwich Festivals ever since 1845, I had not seized the opportunity of composing an important work for one of those meetings, signifying also his willingness to furnish me with a *libretto*. On the 11th of April, 1858, I mentioned to him two subjects, one of which, viz. 'St. Peter,' he approved of. I explained my views of the form of *libretto*, constructed upon St. Peter's life, which I considered most amenable to musical treatment, and Mr.

Chorley promised to take them into consideration. The terms proposed by Mr. Chorley, viz., a certain sum,—the first half to be paid to him on the completion of the first part, the second half on the completion of the work,—were verbally agreed upon. We were at that time on such terms that no reference was ever made to a written agreement. "The words," said Mr. Chorley, "will belong to you; you may do with them as you like; set them to music, lay them aside, or destroy them." Within twelve days after our conversation I received from Mr. Chorley the first part of his *libretto*, and paid him the first instalment (23rd of April, 1858). The complete book, being entirely a compilation from the Scriptures, was finished by the middle of June, 1858. I then contemplated having my Oratorio ready for the Norwich Festival of 1860, being pledged to the Committee to produce some new work for that occasion. Finding, however, certain alterations in the *libretto* of 'St. Peter' indispensable to the effective musical setting, as I conceived it, I applied to Mr. Chorley to make them, and his refusal to accede to my suggestions was the reason of the Oratorio not being composed for the occasion intended. Under these circumstances 'St. Peter' was laid aside for seven years. In the winter of 1865-6, however, the Committee of the Norwich Festival applied to me to write a sacred composition for their next meeting. Upon this I again had recourse to Mr. Chorley, suggesting such modifications in his *libretto* as might enable me to set it in a manner which, according to my own feelings, was most advantageous to musical effect. Mr. Chorley promised to reconsider the work, and to make such alterations as, on reflection, he might deem improvements; but, after attentive perusal, he came to the conclusion that no change could be made for the better, and would only consent to a curtailment here and there, to avoid undue length. The result was, that, having pledged myself to write a sacred work for the Festival in question, I asked Mr. Chorley to co-operate with me in a Cantata, to which he agreed, and at his own proposition, in a letter, dated the 19th of December, 1865 (to which I shall make further reference), 'St. Cecilia' was substituted for 'St. Peter.'

In 1869, at the friendly suggestion of Sir Michael Costa, I wrote to Mr. Richard Peyton, Chairman of the Orchestral Committee of the Birmingham Festival, on February 17th, expressing a wish to have an Oratorio, upon which I was then engaged, performed at the Festival of 1870. The answer I received from the Committee, through Mr. Peyton (dated April 26th, 1869), was favourable to my proposal, and conveyed to me a wish on the part of the Committee, to be made acquainted, among other things unnecessary to specify, with the subject upon which my Oratorio was founded, and, if possible, that the book should be sent for their approval. In the interim I wrote to Mr. Chorley (March 25th, 1869), telling him what proceedings I had taken with regard to 'St. Peter' at Birmingham. In his reply (March 27th, 1869), he wrote as follows:—"I had entirely forgotten that you had an Oratorio book of mine till your note recalled the fact to me, and then it was long ere I could recollect the story. I should be glad to see it on my return. I may, however, have a rough copy somewhere, and will try to revive my interest in what is virtually for me a dead thing."

Nevertheless, our last conference on the subject of 'St. Peter' took place so recently as the winter of 1865-6, which the following extract from a letter addressed to me by Mr. Chorley, dated 19th of December, 1865, proves:—"Why not compose the first part of 'St. Peter': 'Christ on the sea-shore,' as Berlioz did his 'Flight into Egypt'? When you have finished the first and second parts of the Oratorio I will then look again at the third. At present, I am indisposed to give any labour to be laid aside for five years to come. I say this in no ill-nature, but because I have much on hand, and less power to work than formerly."

In reply to Mr. Peyton's letter of April 26th, already referred to, I communicated to him the subject of the Oratorio, according to the Committee's desire. On May the 13th I received a letter from

Mr. Peyton containing the passage subjoined:—"Would it also not be an advantage, irrespective of the question of length, if some character could be introduced for a principal soprano. I make this latter inquiry, having seen a rough copy of the book (belonging to Mr. Chorley), in which it appeared that this important element of interest was wanting. Possibly, however, this has already been altered in the modified work: in any case, if you think well to afford the Committee the opportunity of seeing the book on Saturday, I am sure they would be glad to do so."

Here let me observe, that I knew nothing of any modification. However, the book as it stood was sent in, and the subject approved. Mr. Chorley being absent from London nearly four months, I had no further communication with him on the subject of 'St. Peter,' although letters passed between us respecting another matter which he pressed upon me, viz., the composition of a new Cantata for the Norwich Festival of 1869. My obligation to the Birmingham Committee being imperative, I was anxious to proceed as quickly as possible with the Oratorio. I therefore consulted a Concordance (as Mr. Chorley, having learnt the fact from me, says with perfect truth); but, being unable to satisfy myself with this very ordinary means of assistance in such cases, I applied to a literary gentleman, who entered at once into my views, and gave me several valuable suggestions, which I was authorized to submit to Mr. Chorley for approval. This led to a correspondence with Mr. Chorley, from whose letters I find it necessary to cite a few extracts. The first is from a letter dated January 14th, 1870:—"The Birmingham Committee accepted my book before it was entrusted to you, on my recommendation. You accepted it as it stood, with every possible time for deliberation."

On reference to what I have already stated, it will be found that both these assertions are inexact. The second extract is from a letter, dated January 21st, 1870:—"I have no longer the slightest interest in the work, but I will not do anything to prejudice you in your dealings with the Birmingham Committee; nor shall I mention the matter to any one save to Sir M. Costa and Mr. Dickens (friends of yours as well as mine). On the discretion of both these gentlemen I can count."

This hardly tallies with Mr. Chorley's statement in the *Athenæum* of October 8th, which runs thus:—"I offered to refer the matter in debate to the arbitration of two mutual friends of ours—Sir Michael Costa and the late Charles Dickens. This he (meaning myself) distinctly declined."

No such offer was ever made by Mr. Chorley. If it had been, I need hardly say how readily I should have accepted it. The same letter (January 21st) contains the following postscript:—"Let me add my receipt of the cheque. It shall go to the Birmingham Hospital—*anonymously*."

The cheque (for 25*l.*) referred to above was an over-payment, inadvertently made by me; it having escaped my memory, and apparently that of Mr. Chorley, that the whole sum agreed upon (50*l.*) for the book of 'St. Peter' had been paid as far back as June, 1858. Nevertheless, Mr. Chorley sent the money to the charity—not anonymously, as he stated in his letter, but in his own name, "H. F. Chorley—25*l.*"

My last extract is from a letter, dated February 28th, 1870:—"This closes all correspondence and all personal acquaintance betwixt yourself and its writer."—A punishment which I shall endeavour my best to survive. I trust to your well-known impartiality for the insertion of this letter in your widely-circulated columns. JULES BENEDICT.

Musical Gossip.

WE regret to learn the death of Mr. Balfe; we shall next week publish a detailed account of his life and works.

ANOTHER attempt will be made next year to revive the "Ancient Concerts," which will have Field-Marshal the Duke of Cambridge as Commander-in-Chief, and Mr. Barnby as conductor.

MADAME PAULINE VIARDOT has arrived in London for the season from Baden-Baden.

A PRAISEWORTHY effort to introduce classical music south of the Thames is being made by Mr. Ridley Prentice, the pianist, as manager of the Monthly Popular Concerts given at the Brixton Institution. The coadjutors of Mr. Prentice are Messrs. Weist Hill, Folkes and Burnett, violinists, Mr. Pettit, the violoncellist, Mr. Menson, organist, Mdle. Dowland and Mr. Winn, vocalists.

THE *début* of Signor Marini as *Arturo* in Bellini's 'Puritani' at the opening of the Moscow Italian Opera House was highly successful. He was a chorus-singer in Madrid, discovered by Signor Merelli, the manager at Moscow. Perhaps Marini's triumph had something to do with a cabal against the veteran Signor Tamberlik, at his first appearance, which was as *Manrico* in the 'Trovatore.' But the audience, despite the police, would not listen to the tenor, who as a consolation received a sympathetic telegram from the St. Petersburg Artistic Club. Poor Duprez during the days when his voice was failing, had to endure the hisses of his once fanatic admirers in Paris, and Signor Mario has been fated to listen to sounds disagreeable to "ears polite." This is a lesson to artists not to rely on their popularity when their powers have failed. The example of Rubini should be recollected; he left the stage when his singing was at the best. "Why do you leave us," said an admiring friend to him on the last night he ever sang in Paris, "when you are in better voice than ever?" "Yes," replied Rubini modestly, "and just as I was beginning to know how to sing; but I have made enough money, and I will retire, leaving my reputation unimpaired."

MUSICAL doings at the Antipodes are not uninteresting. It is curious to learn that at the Melbourne Theatre Royal, the *impresario* has the spirit to import an opera from Italy without its having gone through the ordeal of being tried either in Paris or London. The 'Ione' of Enrico Petrella, a composer whose works have been numerous, is based on Lord Lytton's romance, 'The Last Days of Pompeii.' "The music never flags," writes a local critic; "it is never tame or inexpressive; in its southern warmth and strong local colour the music is thoroughly racy of the Neapolitan soil. The overture and instrumentation are full of strong contrasts." Verdi's 'Sicilian Vespers,' also produced at Melbourne, does not seem to have pleased so much as Petrella's 'Ione.' Signora Barratti, the *prima donna*, is proclaimed by some of her Australian admirers to be a second Grisi; at all events, Barratti arouses the enthusiasm of her auditory, especially in 'Norma.' She is young. Signor Neri, the tenor, does not please. Madame Escott, who is well known in the English provinces, has realized a fortune by her singing in Australia. Mention is made of an American tenor, Mr. Squires, as achieving a high position.

DRAMA

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—EVERY EVENING will be presented, VICTORIAN NARDON'S great Play, 'FERNANDE,' revised by SUTHERLAND EDWARDS. Esq. Characters by Messrs. Farrer, Leeson, Lyn Hayne, Gaston Murray, and Lionel Brough; Mrs. Hermann Vesin, Miss Larkin, Miss Fannie Brough, Miss Sallie Turner, and Mrs. John Wood. To commence at 7, with 'TO OBLIGE BENSON,' by TOM TAYLOR, Esq.; 'FERNANDE' at 8 o'clock; to conclude with 'ONLY A D.,' by JOHN OXENFORD, Esq. Box Office 11 to 6. No fees.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

THE Adelphi, which during the summer recess has been repainted, and provided with a new act-drop more tasteful and less florid than the majority of such compositions, opened on Saturday last, under the joint management of Messrs. Webster and Chatterton. One of the best remembered of those melo-dramas which carried the fortunes of the Adelphi to their highest point, was revived. To play-goers whose recollections extend over a quarter of a century, a performance like that of 'The Green Bushes,' on Saturday last, is not very pleasant or edifying to witness. The piece is fraught with memories of the drollery of Wright, who if he had not stooped to be the coarsest might have been the best of our comic actors, of Paul Bedford's

amusing buffooneries, the tenderness and grace of Mrs. Yates, and O. Smith's pictures of uncompromising villany. Of the old exponents of 'The Green Bushes,' two or three at most linger, and those who come behind, so far as they interest at all, do so by contrast rather than resemblance. That the representation on Saturday was favourably received may be attributed to two causes,—that the majority of the house did not recall the earliest performances of the drama, and that the minority swallowed its discontent, in order to take a friendly leave of Madame Celeste. This actress is taking, in the part of *Miami*, which, more perhaps than any other, contributed to establish her popularity, her farewell of the stage. Of Madame Celeste's last representation, it may safely be said that it can scarcely be told from the earliest. When the actress crossed the familiar bridge behind the log cabin, her appearance was precisely that of former years, and neither voice, accent, nor bearing dispelled the illusion created. Madame Celeste acted in her strong and picturesque style, and was warmly received. Other parts in the piece were sustained by Mrs. Billington, *Geraldine*; Mrs. Mellon, *Nelly O'Neil*; Mr. Billington, *Connor O'Kennedy*; Mr. Rouse, *Master Grinnidge*; Mr. Stephenson, *Murtagh*, and Mr. Wilmot, *Jack Gong*.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

THE same evening that witnessed the opening of the Adelphi saw that also of the Princess's, now under the same management. Pending the production of *novelties* in preparation, 'Peep o' Day' and 'The Great City,' two pieces belonging to the Drury Lane *répertoire*, have been played. In the first-named drama, Miss Rose Leclercq, Mr. Rig-nold, and Mr. Shiel Barry had leading parts; and in the latter, Mr. Clayton and Mr. Voltaire.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

THE Haymarket re-opened, on Monday, with a performance of 'The Rivals,' 'No Song No Supper,' and a new comedieta entitled, 'Uncle's Will.' Sheridan's comedy was creditably supported: the *Lydia Languish* of Miss Madge Robertson, the *Sir Anthony* of Mr. Chippendale, and the *Bob Acres* of Mr. Buckstone reaching absolute excellence. In most forms of comedy Miss Robertson has shown herself a competent actress, and her bright, intelligent, and, so to speak, clean-cut style is admirably suited to characters like that she now essays, in which extravagant conduct has to be reconciled with ease and an appearance of breeding. The other impersonations are thoroughly familiar to play-goers.—'Uncle's Will' is a *proverbe* of the description popularized by Alfred de Musset and succeeding writers. To its author, Mr. Theyre Smith, we owe a previous piece of the same class, 'A Happy Pair,' produced by Miss Herbert at the St. James's Theatre. Like its predecessor, 'Uncle's Will' is a clever, vivacious and amusing piece. Its framework, though slight, is well constructed, and its dialogue is remarkably brilliant. A complete fusillade of jokes and repartees bewilders the audience. The fault of the *proverbe*, artistically speaking, is, indeed, we are inclined to think, over-smartness. A sense of unreality is communicated to the dialogue by the exceeding brilliancy of the persiflage, which is maintained. The audience sees, moreover, the "trick" of the author, and finds at times its amusement in watching how the jokes are led up to, rather than in applauding them when they come. Still, the whole is sufficiently ingenious and effective to show that the power of writing comedy-dialogue is not yet completely lost. Its plot is simple. Two cousins find themselves bound by the provisions of an uncle's will to marry each other, or to forfeit a large estate. Under the influence of such oppressive conditions the love they formerly felt grows into seeming aversion, and each endeavours to goad the other into refusal. After they have, to the great delight of the next heir to the estate, signed a joint renunciation of the property, they discover that they have been in error as to their real feelings. No sooner are they not compelled to woo each other, than they find that wooing each other is the most pleasant and even necessary

of occupations. The compromising document is then torn up, and the conditions of "uncle's will" seem in a fair way of being complied with. Mr. Kendal and Miss Madge Robertson played the two lovers with great vivacity. It may be urged against the piece that the behaviour of the hero passes a little the bounds of social courtesy. Some of his repartees are really rude.—On Wednesday 'The Love Chase' was revived, with Miss Robertson as *Constance*; Mrs. Chippendale, the *Widow Green*; Miss Fanny Gwynne, *Lydia*; Mr. Chippendale, *Sir William Fondlove*; Mr. Howe, *Wildrake*; Mr. Kendal, *Master Walter*, and Mr. Rogers, *Truworth*.

Dramatic Gossip.

'WAR' is, we understand, the title of the comedy by Mr. Robertson in preparation at the St. James's Theatre.

A FOUR-ACT drama, by Mr. Burnand, will shortly be produced at the Adelphi, together with a new comic drama, in which Miss Furtado will re-appear.

MR. ROBERT REECE's burlesque, 'The Stranger—stranger than ever,' originally produced at the Queen's Theatre, was presented for the first time, on Wednesday last, to the patrons of the Royalty, and received by them with as much applause as greeted it on its first production. Miss Henrietta Hodson, the original *Mrs. Haller* of the burlesque, appeared in the same rôle on Wednesday. The other actors and actresses were new to the business of the piece; but all acted satisfactorily, and at the fall of the curtain the principal performers were summoned to the footlights to receive the applause of the house.

MISS GLYN's first reading in America took place in the Fremont Temple, Boston, in presence of a distinguished audience. Among the audience were Longfellow, Lowell, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. 'Antony and Cleopatra' was the play selected. It is to be followed by 'Hamlet,' 'Othello,' 'Romeo and Juliet,' and 'King John.' The reading was a complete success.

GREAT activity is displayed at the theatres in Boston, America. Mr. and Mrs. Barny Williams are playing at the Boston Theatre in Mr. Brougham's drama, 'The Emerald Ring.' 'Blue Beard' occupies the Adelphi; 'The Prompter's Box,' the Museum; and 'Monte Cristo,' the Globe. At the Howard Athenæum a new pantomime has been produced.

ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

Earl Godwin.—The *Edinburgh Review*, speaking of Lord Lawrence, says, "He could talk fluently to the native chiefs and aristocracy as well as to the artisan and agriculturist, in their vernacular tongues." In Malmesbury's 'History of the Kings,' A.D. 1066, we read as follows: "He (Earl Godwin) was a man of ready wit, and spoke fluently in the vernacular." It is the fashion in some modern histories to speak of Earl Godwin and his race as Englishmen and patriots. Unless Godwin had been of another tongue and nation by birth and descent, could speaking in the "vulgar tongue" have been ascribed to him as an accomplishment? Does it not bear out Bonnehose, in his common-sense reading of this same William of Malmesbury (Livre 3, c. iii.),—"Si homines libere natos, libere educatos, nullius *daci* ferocian pati posse." "La dénomination de *danois* (Dacns) donnée ici à Tosti, fils de Godwin et de Githa, sœur du roi de Danemark, est digne d'attention." Surely "*dax*" would make it nonsense. SCOTT F. SURTEES.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—W. R. H.—G. G.—H. P. M.—H. L. R.—A. H.—J. K. L.—H. L. G.—M. G.—T. R. E.—W. P.—A. K.—P. A. D.—J. A. H.—J. J. H.—J. J.—T. D. L.—W. A. B.—S. L.—J. J. H.—H. E. W.—J. L.—N. V.—J. C. B.—received.

W. A. W. (Amsterdam). Did you receive our letter?

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Messrs. Field, Wood & Haynes, in bringing this Stock before the public, call their attention to the following facts:—

The Devon and Somerset Railway, 42 miles in length (shown on the accompanying map, coloured red), commences at Norton, near Taunton, Somerset, forming a junction with the Bristol and Exeter Railway there, and terminates at Barnstaple, Devon, crossing by a direct route from east to west, Milverton, Wivelacombe, Taunton, Dulverton, North and South Molton, Swinbridge and Landkey, saving nearly forty

miles on the existing route from the West of England to Bristol and the North, and bringing the entire district traversed, within much easier reach of the Metropolis.

The Devon and Somerset Railway possesses peculiar advantages as regards traffic, as, from the great saving of distance, it will command a remunerative Passenger and Goods traffic, but in addition, an important coal and mineral traffic from the surrounding districts which this Railway will open up, there being to the northward of this line, and between it and the Bristol Channel, upwards of 400 square miles of rich mineral and agricultural country, unprovided with railway accommodation, and to the southward, upwards of 200 miles, more than half of which is similarly unprovided.

The present route from the north, north-east, and east to Barnstaple and the West of England is (as a glance at the map will show) round via Taunton, by Exeter—a very circuitous route.

When the Devon and Somerset Railway is open, a saving of nearly 40 miles in distance, and consequently economy of time and expense will be effected by all traffic between the Metropolis and places north of it and the large district which will be served by the Devon and Somerset Railway, such traffic then proceeding by the Great Western and Bristol and Exeter Railways, to Taunton, and thence by the Devon and Somerset Railway direct, Passengers and Goods being booked through by those Companies.

By special agreement, confirmed by Act of Parliament, the Bristol and Exeter Railway Company are to work the Devon and Somerset Railway in perpetuity, and pay over to it half-yearly 50 per cent. of the gross receipts.

Arrangements have also been made by which the Midland Railway Company is under agreement to allow the Devon and Somerset Railway 10 per cent. rebate on the traffic passing over their line; and the Bristol and Exeter Company have agreed to allow a similar rebate of 5l. per cent. on their line.

The traffic of the Devon and Somerset Railway, there is no doubt, must be large, having regard to the important towns it unites, and to the rich agricultural and mineral district it will accommodate, as well as the saving of distance from the Metropolis and North.

There will also, it may be confidently expected, be found a special element of great future advantage in the facility it will offer for summer and excursion traffic to the beautiful and favourite scenery of North Devon and Cornwall. The attractions of this district bring numbers, which are rapidly increasing every year, to the West of England; and the Devon and Somerset Railway will offer to the whole of the manufacturing districts of England the readiest and far the shortest route, and will traverse some of the most picturesque parts of North Devon.

With reference to the estimate of the probable traffic, it may be observed that the North Devon Line, running to Barnstaple from Exeter, has a traffic of 22,000 tons per week; and the South Devon Line, from Exeter to Plymouth, 42,000 tons per week; and the Directors have received a reliable estimate that the traffic of this line will reach 32,000 tons per week, and will ultimately be considerably more; the receipts of the North and South Devon Lines together average 35l. 10s. per mile per week.

The amount required annually to pay the interest on the A. Debenture Stock is 16,500l., and on the B. Debenture Stock 8,300l. per annum, so that, on the above estimate, the anticipated revenue would considerably exceed the sum necessary for such interest, to which must be added the additional receipts from Rebates of traffic before mentioned, thus rendering the investment one of ample security.

Towards the construction of the forty-two miles of Railway of which the Devon and Somerset Railway consists, great progress has been made, the works being now rapidly proceeded with; the 1st Section, from Taunton to Wivelacombe, 10 miles, will be completed in about 28 days, and by arrangements with the Contractor, for the due performance of whose engagements security has been given to the satisfaction of the Board of Directors of the Company, the following periods have been fixed for completing the entire Line for traffic:—

2nd Section, Barnstaple to South Molton, 12 miles on 15th Feb., 1871, and last Section 20 miles on 30th June 1871.

To ensure the punctual payment of the Interest during the last-mentioned period upon the Stock applied for, as well as for a further period, up to three years, viz., to 30th October, 1873, an amount sufficient for the purpose will be invested in Government Securities, in the names of

JOHN ARTHUR LOCKE, Esq., North Moor House, Dulverton, Somerset,
 Deputy-Chairman of the Devon and Somerset Railway,

AND

EDMUND HAVILAND BURKE, Esq., M.P., 13, Arlington-street, London,

who have consented to act as Trustees, and who will apply such amount thereof as may be necessary to ensure the full and punctual payment half-yearly to B. Debenture-Holders of such Interest as it falls due, thus affording to the Company the most ample time to develop its traffic after opening the Line.

As a safe investment, English Railway Debenture Stock is well known; it possesses at once the advantage of a fixed income, and that of rapid increase of value, and consequent augmentation of the capital invested.

These features apply specially to the Stock now offered, the accompanying Table of the relative values of existing Railway Debenture and other Stocks yielding 5 per cent. Interest, as compared with the 5 per cent. B. Debenture Stock of the Devon and Somerset Railway,

now offered at 75s., showing that when the Line is completely open for traffic the Stock must greatly increase in value.

NAME OF STOCK.	Equivalent Value in a Stock of 100	Present Price.	Interest Rate.	5 per cent.	4 per cent.
London and North-Western Railway Debenture Stock	110	110	5	4	5
Great Eastern	110	110	5	4	5
Great Western	110	110	5	4	5
Great Northern	110	110	5	4	5
London and Birmingham	110	110	5	4	5
Midland	110	110	5	4	5
North-Eastern	110	110	5	4	5
North London	110	110	5	4	5
South-Eastern	110	110	5	4	5
DEVON AND SOMERSET	110	110	5	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 5 per cent.	110	110	5	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 4 per cent.	110	110	4	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 3 per cent.	110	110	3	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 2 per cent.	110	110	2	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 1 per cent.	110	110	1	4	5
B. Debenture Stock, 0 per cent.	110	110	0	4	5

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